

Liturgy
of the
German
Anglican
Mission

1860.



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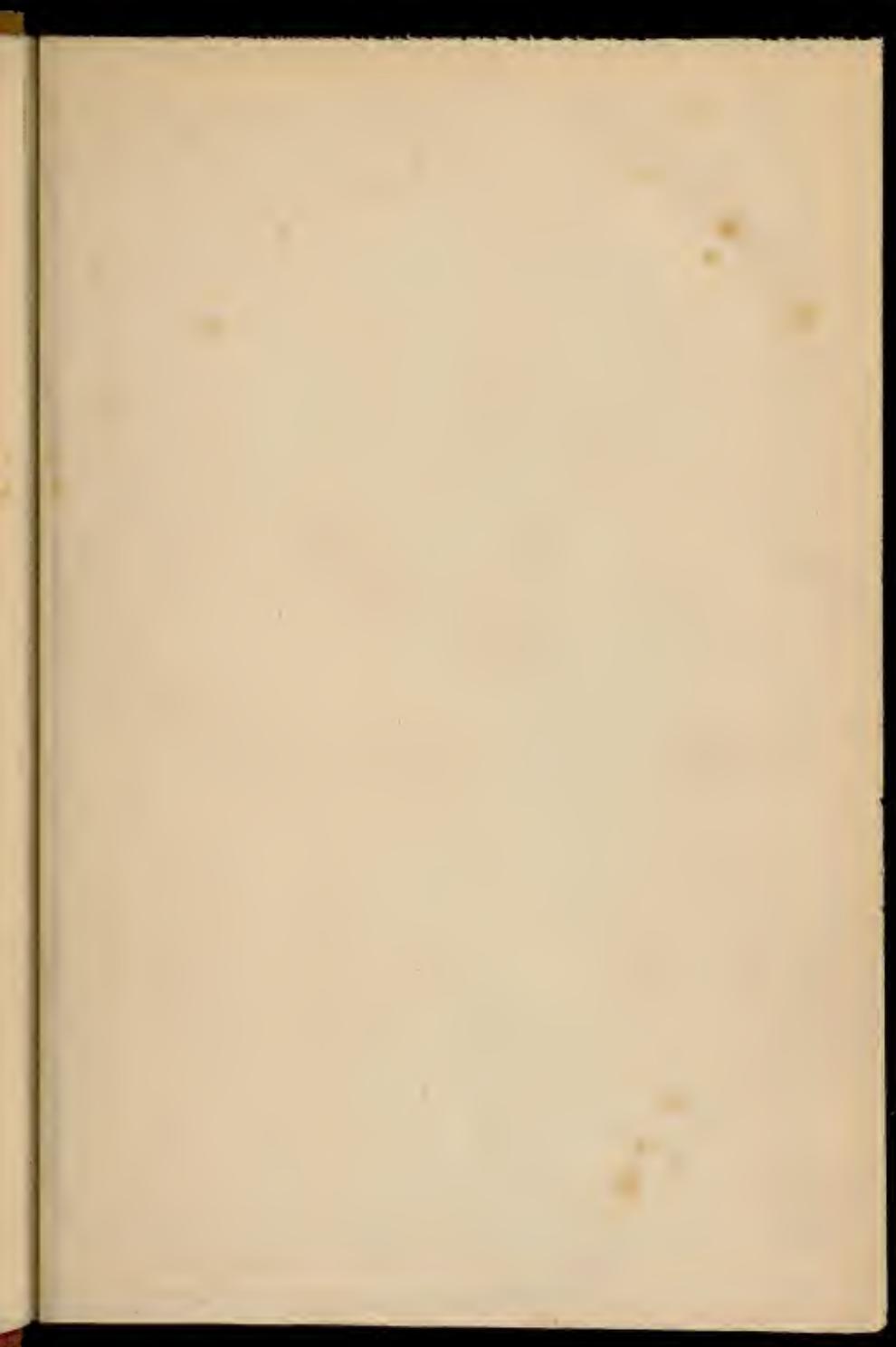
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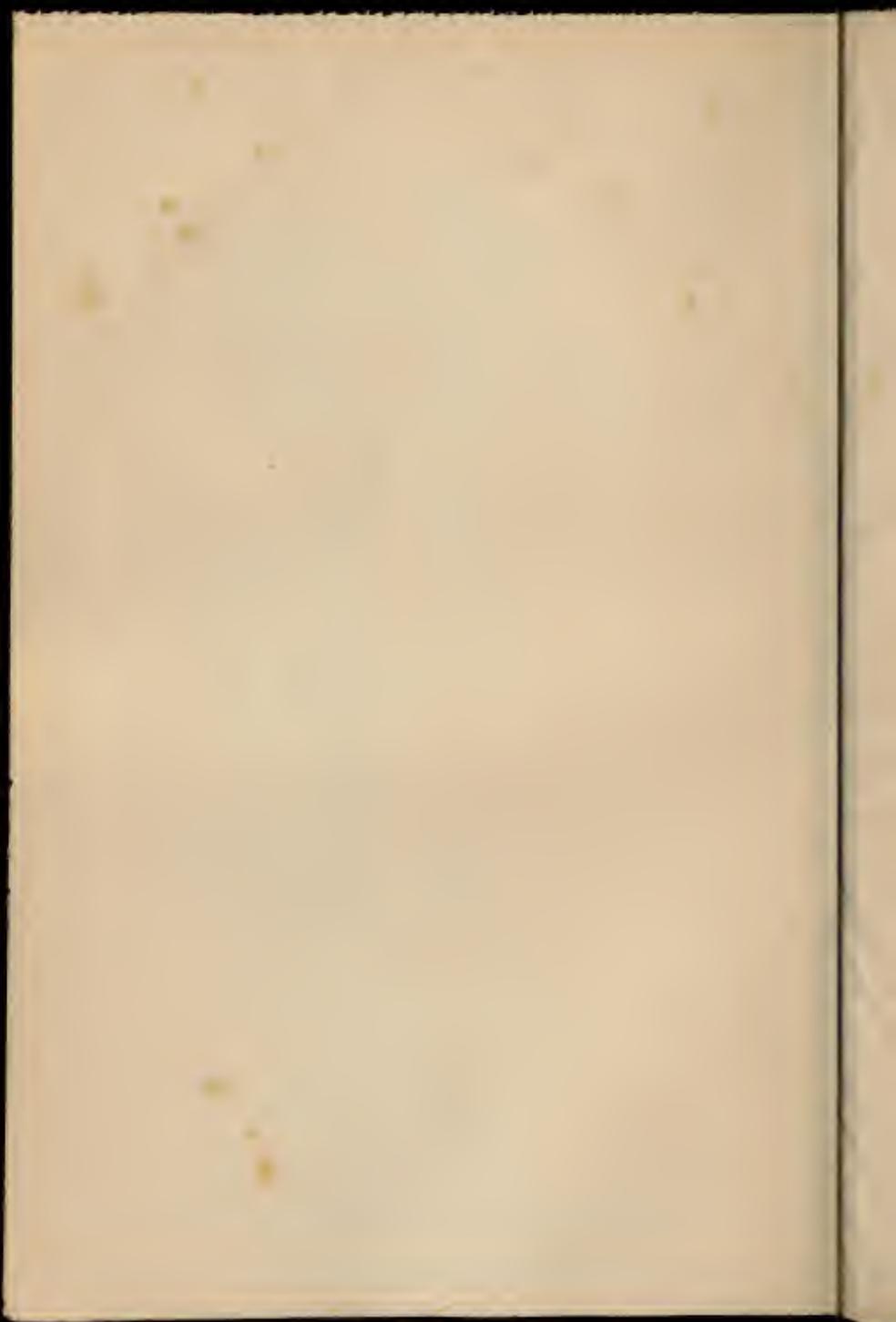
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UBTÜBINGEN







LITURGY
OF THE
GERMAN EVANGELICAL MISSION
CHURCHES
IN
SOUTHWESTERN INDIA.



MANGALORE:
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1860.



GRH 22^b

Preface.

The want of a book of common prayer for the conduct of divine worship in our congregations, and of authorized forms for the administration of the Sacraments and other rites of our churches has long been felt by many Brethren in the service of our Mission. We have all of us grown up members of ecclesiastical bodies, possessed of liturgies, some of which have descended to us from the time of the Reformation, and which have approved themselves and become precious both to ministers and people by the usage and tradition of centuries. Godly men of the ripest experience in spiritual things have in all ages contended, that, without depreciating the habit of extemporaneous prayer, which, though not without its dangers and disadvantages, is undoubtedly the source of great benefits and manifold blessings, the Christian Church accords a high value to set forms of prayer which ought and may be used in the power of the spirit to the honor and glory of God, and are not more liable to degenerate into lip-service and spiritless formality than unstudied and unpremeditated effusions. But especially among congregations recently gathered from the heathens the advantage of a form of sound words to guide them in the exercise of their new spiritual office and to teach, so to say, the art of prayer, is too manifest to need argument.

The Home Committee, meeting the wishes of the Missionary Brethren have resolved upon the preparation of a book of Common prayer for the use of the Western India congregations and ordered the compilation of a liturgy, in reference to which they have expounded their own views and leading principles as follows:

1. The Basel Committee of the German Evangelical Missionary Society being an association of Christians in communion with different protestant churches established in Germany and Switzerland, formed for the sole purpose of carrying on Missionary operations in heathen countries, and disavowing the intention of establishing an ecclesiastical union resting on a new confession of faith superseding the articles of established churches, has no wish to impose upon the congregations, collected in heathen countries by the preaching of the word of God, the creed of any European church, be it named Lutheran or Reformed or United, but desires, that the Mission Churches abroad should keep the word of God, which has been preached to them and believed by them, in sincerity of heart, and grow in the knowledge of the same Word of God which is the pure and allsufficient source of wisdom in divine things. On the other hand it is the Committee's wish and hope, that the congregations established in heathen lands through the agency of their Missionaries may become and remain a Church united in the bonds of Christian love and fellowship; and they look upon the introduction of a common liturgy and the establishment by its means of a conformity in divine worship among the convert-churches as a legitimate and powerful instrument for the attainment of the object which they have at heart.

2. The establishment of a liturgy, now under contemplation, is not intended to exclude from public ministrations the use of free and extemporeaneous prayer. The liturgy itself in several places calls for such prayers, and the general principle is distinctly acknowledged, that no slavish adherence to the text of the book of common prayer is enjoined or desired, and that individual Brethren are at liberty on particular occasions to dispense with the reading of the liturgy altogether. Only in the administration of the Sacraments there ought to be no departure from the language employed in the act of administration which is taken from holy Writ and rests upon the authority of the Lord himself. The Committee consider the present compilation not as a perfect and authoritative work above change and improvement but rather as the basis of a liturgy to be used in their Missionary Churches without compulsion and to be improved in times to come under the guidance of the Spirit of God.

These were the views explained by Inspector Josenhans, when, on his visitation in 1851, he met the different District Conferences, in the debates on the Liturgy question and which he especially impressed on the minds of the Brethren whom he charged with the preparation of the Liturgy.

The Liturgy-Commission, after their preliminary labors had been brought to a close, met at Mangalore in March 1852 when they were engaged from the 18th to the 27th March in the final redaction of this work. They have been careful to select the prayers and other parts of the new Liturgy from the ancient and approved prayer books in use among the established protestant churches of Germany and Switz-

erland. The sources from which the different parts of this collection have been taken are indicated in notes appended to them.

The first part of the Liturgy contains a collection of prayers and of forms for the administration of the Sacrements and other rites and ceremonies of the church. The second part comprises the history of the Passion compiled from the four gospels, the Gospels and Epistles, and the Church Catechisms chiefly intended for the use of such as are preparing for the rite of Confirmation. This Catechism is based upon the so called book of Confirmation which is in use in the Evangelical Church of Württemberg.

With the earnest prayer that the Head of the Church may be pleased to bless the use of the manual, thus prepared for the service of our congregations, to the establishment and growth in grace and knowledge of many souls, it is now committed to their Brethren and the churches under their charge by

the Members of the Liturgy
Commission.

LITURGY.

FIRST PART

CONTAINING DIFFERENT FORMS OF COMMON PRAYER
TO BE USED IN PUBLIC WORSHIP.

I. Sunday Morning Service.

Introductory Sentences of the Scriptures,

(to be read with a loud voice by the Minister standing in front of the communion table or in the pulpit at the beginning of the public service.)—

1.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen. 2 Cor. 13, 14. or

2.

Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Cor. 1, 2. or

3.

Grace be with you, mercy and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the son of the Father, in truth and love. 2 John 3.

4.

Our beginning be in the name of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Sentenees of the Scriptures proper to be used at the beginning of public service on speial days.

On the Sundays in Advent.

1.

Hosannah to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosannah in the Highest. Matth. 21, 9.

2.

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation; that Christ Jesus came into the world, to save sinners. 1 Tim. 1, 15.

On Christmas-day.

1.

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in

the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2, 10. 11.

2.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good
will toward men. Luke 2, 14.

On New years-day.

1.

Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is,
and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven
spirits which are before his throne. Rev. 1, 4.

2.

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help
in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth
be removed, and though the mountains be carried into
the midst of the sea. Ps. 46, 1. 2.

On Epiphany.

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of
the Lord is risen upon thee. Is. 60, 1.

On Good-Friday.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power,
and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and
glory, and blessing. Rev. 5, 12.

On Easter-day.**1.**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1. Peter 1, 3.

2.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Hebr. 13, 20. 21.

On Ascension-day.

God is gone up with a shout, the Lord with the voice of a trumpet. Sing praises to God; sing praises. For God is the king of all the earth: sing ye praises with understanding. Ps. 47, 5. 6. 7.

On Pentecost.

Because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Gal. 4, 6.

On Trinity Sunday.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty, which was,
and is, and is to come. Rev. 4, 8.

(After the reading of the introductory sentence or sentences the congregation sings one or more verses of a hymn of general import, be it of supplication, or praise, or thanksgiving; whereupon follow the prayers.)

Exhortation.

Ye who are sanctified in Christ Jesu, and called to be saints, lift up your hearts to make your prayers and supplications known unto God with reverence and holy fear. Surely this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven, where we may approach his holy Majesty, that most graciously reveals itself in Christ Jesu, the beloved son in whom he is well pleased, through the most holy spirit of adoption, to the intent that through the word and the holy sacraments the marvellous light of heavenly wisdom and knowledge and the power of divine life full of consolation, peace and joy, which passeth all understanding may spread and increase among the children of his kingdom. Wherefore, beloved in the Lord, it is very meet and right that you should come boldly unto the throne of grace on High to which free access is given in the name of Jesus, unto the Holy of Holies of the triune God which is the well-spring of life whence floweth every good gift, praying in the

Spirit, offering up the sacrifice of thanksgiving and serving the Lord in the beauty of holiness. I pray you then, and beseech you, in true humility of heart, and childlike assurance to draw nigh unto God and, first of all, with true penitence to confess your sins, saying after me;

(A general Confession to be said of the whole Congregation after the Minister, all kneeling.)

Before God, my heavenly Father I acknowledge myself a poor miserable sinner and bewail my manifold sins and wickednesses, which I, from time to time most grievously have committed not in word and deed only but still more through our corruption of heart and defilement of spirit, through unbelief, fearfulness and impatience, through indolence and manifold sins of omission, through pride and highmindedness, envy, hatred, malice, wrath and anger, vanity and worldliness, carnal lusts and desires, love of money and of other earthly things, and through all the unfathomable deceitfulness of my sin, against his divine Majesty, provoking most justly his wrath and indignation against me, and his sore judgments both in the life that now is, and in that which is to come. I do earnestly repent and am heartily sorry for these my sins which I am not able to discern as fully as the Lord my God searcheth and knoweth them. The remembrance of them is grievous unto me; the burden of them is intolerable. With a contrite heart

I ask grace and pardon of God through his beloved son,
my Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Or:

Almighty, everlasting and merciful God, father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we poor miserable sinners acknowledge, confess and bewail before thy divine Majesty our great wickedness and corruption. Conceived and born in sin, we have by nature been children of wrath. Through all our life we have in diverse ways provoked thy righteous indignation by thought, word, and deed. We have not loved thee our Maker, Redeemer and Sanctifier with all our heart and with all our soul, and with all our mind, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves, according to thy commandment. We therefore acknowledge ourselves worthy of thy wrath and judgment, of eternal death and condemnation. But taking refuge with thy unfathomable mercy, we seek and desire after grace and entreat thee from the depth of our hearts to have pity upon us, graciously to forgive all our sins and to grant us true repentance for the sake of thy dear son our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, to the glory of thy most holy name. Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable sinners.

(Then shall the Minister stand up, and turning himself to the people, pronounce this
A b s o l u t i o n :)

Hear, then, all ye who truly repent and are sorry for your sins, and truly believe in Christ our Redeemer,

with full purpose of amendment of heart and life, the comfortable assurance, from the holy gospel, of the remission of sin. Almighty God has had mercy upon you and through his well beloved son, Jesus Christ, crucified for our sins, and raised from the dead for our righteousness, has pardoned all our sins. Wherefore by the power and commandment given by Jesus Christ to the ministers of his Church, I declare and pronounce to you the remission of all your sins in the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, warning at the same time in the name and by the commandment of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, such as may be impenitent and unbelieving that their sins are retained, and that, unless they turn and repent, the wrath of God abideth upon them. Amen!

(Then shall be said the Apostles' Creed by the Minister and people, standing, after these words of exhortation, pronounced by the Minister:)

Since God, the Father of mercies, out of the abundance of his Grace, has pardoned the sins of all such as truly repent, I exhort you and all the faithful people of the Lord to turn to the triune God in newness of heart, and to confess by word and deed our faith in him as it is need to do at all times and places, so now here, saying after me:

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried, He descended into hell; The third day he rose from the dead, He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father, Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy catholic Church; The communion of Saints; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(And after that, this thanksgiving following, all standing, the Minister pronouncing with a loud voice,)

Let us pray:

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we thine unworthy servants do give thee most humble and hearty thanks for all thy goodness and lovingkindness to us and to all men (*particularly to those who desire now to offer up their praises and thanksgivings for thy late mercies vouchsafed unto them.*)—This to be said, when any that have been prayed for, desire to return praise.—We bless thee for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life; but above all, for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for thy holy Word and Sacraments, and for the hope of glory. And, we beseech thee, give us that due

sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful, and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips but in our lives; by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

(Hereupon one or more of the Collects—inserted after the Litany—may be read. Then general and special prayers follow.)

Prayer.

Almighty and merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, incline thine heart toward us for the sake of thy beloved Son. Have mercy upon us, O God; after thy great goodness. According to the multitude of thy mercies do away our offences. Do not enter into judgment with us and pardon our trespasses for the sake of Jesus Christ, our mediator. Guide and govern thy Church. Preserve among us thy word pure and holy, and the blessing of the sacraments full of grace and comfort. Send forth true laborers into thy harvest, and render the preaching of thy Word effectual through thy Spirit and thine own power. Cause it to be proclaimed in all the earth. Grant faith and repentance unto the Gentiles and gather the scattered sheep of Israel. In thy mercy turn away from us all offences, bring into the way of salvation all such as have erred and are deceived, and

strengthen us by thy Spirit, that we may conquer the world and the flesh.

Most gracious God, we commend to thy care and goodness the governors who have authority over us. Grant unto them the Spirit of wisdom and understanding and direct and prosper all their consultations, that honor and righteousness may dwell in the land, and that goodness and faithfulness, righteousness and peace may be established among us. Give unto us all our daily bread. Prosper our labours and industry. Send rain from heaven and fruitful seasons. Preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so as in due time we may enjoy them. Give peace and concord in houses and families, bless the endeavours of such as are engaged in the nurture and training of children and scholars. Direct the hearts of our children into the way of truth by thy holy Spirit. Grant thy gracious protection to town and country. Deliver us from war and rebellion; from lightning, hail and tempest, from plague, pestilence and famine, from conflagrations and floods, and from the sudden death of the wicked. Succour us by thy holy angels encamping around us and keeping us in all our ways. Defend, and provide for, the fatherless and widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed, all sick persons and young children. Deliver us from all troubles and dangers of soul. Strengthen us, that, resisting the enemies

of our salvation by faith and vigilance and prayer, we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in meekness and humility, in godliness and honesty, and hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast unto the end. And when we enter upon our last hour and agony of death, help us by thy almighty grace, that we may rest in faith and our souls depart in peace. Receive us on that day into the kingdom of glory, that we may behold with joy thy holy face, and with all thy angels and elect children praise and glorify thee for ever and ever. Amen.

Or:

Merciful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are not worthy of the least of all thy mercies, and of all the truth which thou hast showed unto us. Have mercy upon us and pardon our transgressions for the sake of thy beloved son, Jesus Christ. Awaken lightminded and careless sinners to repentance and conversion of heart, and so revive the hearts of the faithful, that they may grow in the inward man and prove by their lives the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be the power of God unto salvation to all them that believe. Grant that the Gospel may be our wisdom and true comfort in life and death, and preserve it among us and our children in purity and power. Graciously defend us from unbelief and contempt of thy holy truth, and from all fond conceits and

vain superstitions by which souls are led away from the one and true foundation of faith.

Vouchsafe unto thy churches ministers endowed with thy holy Spirit, true evangelists, pastors and teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of Christ.

Most heartily we beseech thee, O God, high and mighty, king of kings, Lord of Lords, to bless thy servant our Sovereign Lady, Queen Victoria, to endue her counsellors and ministers with grace, wisdom and understanding, and especially so to direct the hearts and minds of the rulers and governors of this land of our sojourn, that all things may be so ordered and settled by their endeavours, that righteousness and justice without respect of persons, peace and happiness may be established among us, and wickedness and oppression discouraged and put down.

Father of mercies, give unto us all, out of the riches of thy bounteous goodness, our daily bread; bless and prosper our trades and manufactures; send rain and sunshine in due season, that we may receive the fruits of the earth to our comfort. Cause our land to be full of thy glory. Keep us from abuse of thy benefits and

mercies, from hardness of heart towards the poor and indigent; give grace unto us, that we may rejoice in thy goodness with grateful hearts and be merciful as thou, our father, art merciful.

Preserve unto us, O Lord, the blessings of peace; grant prosperity to our houses and families; give grace to husbands and wives that they may live together in peace and concord, to fathers and mothers, that they diligently and successfully carry on their labors and rule their children in love and wisdom. Grant unto our children cheerful obedience, and teach their hearts to love and fear their parents. Grant unto our servants godly fear and pure hearts, and put masters in mind of the master whom they have in heaven. Have mercy upon all men. Lead such as have erred, into the way of truth; restore concord among enemies; comfort such as are troubled; provide for the poor; guard and keep the widows and orphans, succour the afflicted, heal the sick and sustain and comfort the dying. Finally, receive us into the kingdom of eternal joy and happiness, where thou wipest away all tears from the eyes of thy children, and fulfillest all the desires of hearts. Graciously grant our petitions for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

(Any of the collects contained in Appendix B. may be inserted or repeated after the above prayer.

Then follows the Lord's prayer, the petitions of which are pronounced with an audible voice, after the minister, by the congregation:

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

(Then follows the singing of a verse from a hymn, whereupon the Gospel and the Epistle or the two lessons of the day are read, after which the hymn appointed for the service is sung, which is succeeded by the sermon, introduced and finished by extempore prayers.

After another verse has been sung, proclamations are made of marriages to be celebrated, of the Lord's Supper to be held, and of other matters relating to the business and interests of the congregation. The service is concluded with the benediction according to one of the following passages of Holy Writ:—

1.

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Num. 6. 24. 25. 26.

2.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil. 4, 7.

3.

The very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blame-

less unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thess. 5, 23.

4.

The God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Petr. 5, 10. 11.

5.

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory, in the church by Jesus Christ, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen. Eph. 3, 20. 21.

II. Afternoon Service.

(After some introductory sentence from the Scriptures has been pronounced by the minister, a verse is sung by the congregation, whereupon one of the prayers given in appendix A. is offered or one of the following:)

Our heavenly Father, we give thanks and praises unto thee, that thou hast called us with a heavenly calling, and permittest us once more to appear before thy holy face, as children of thy kingdom. Lord, thou art holy and rich in mercy, but we have to take shame to ourselves, in as much as we have not, as gratefully as we ought to have done, considered the glory and blessedness of our calling. Often, alas, have we resisted the

gracious working of thy holy Spirit. Often has the seed of thy word been choked in us by the thorns of worldly pleasures and cares and unbelief. Lord, do not visit our ingratitude with those punishments which we have deserved; do not withdraw from us the light of thy word; do not take away from us the kingdom of thy grace; wash away, o merciful God, our offences by the precious blood of thy beloved son. Be gracious unto us and grant that thy holy word and sacraments may continue to be ministered among us in purity and truth. Create in us a clean heart, full of faith and zeal, a heart delighting in thy praises, in supplications to the riches of thy mercy, and in the power of thy word which lightens and sanctifies our souls, and gives assurance unto us of life everlasting. Vouchsafe to this end teachers and pastors after thy own heart unto thy churches; rule our houses and families by thy holy Spirit; bless in our schools both such as teach and such as are taught; endow with wisdom and power all christian magistrates and authorities, that in the administration of their office and the performance of their duties their chief aim may be thy honor, the preservation and increase of thy church, and the promotion of christian faith, life and righteousness. (Here is inserted the prayer for the government of the country, contained in Appendix B.) Protect our whole country; spare thy people; keep the residue of thy inheritance

from being brought to shame. Bring to nought the counsels of those who with fraud or force set themselves against thy people. Strengthen and deliver all such as are persecuted for confessing thy holy name. Cause the light of thy gospel to shine into the hearts of all the dwellers upon earth. We commend to thy fatherly mercy all those who are any ways afflicted, or distressed, in mind, body or estate, especially the sick [for whom our prayers are desired, N. N.] and the poor. Preserve to our use the kindly fruits of the earth, and grant unto us out of the abundance of thy heavenly goodness what we need for our necessities, our comfort and our peace in this life, until we pass from this vale of tears into thy eternal rest, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Or:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, we enter into thy holy presence to offer unto thee the sacrifices of our hearts, even praise and thanksgivings. Thou hast created us after thy own image, and richly blessed us, from our childhood until this day, with spiritual and temporal blessings without any merit or worthiness of our own; wherefore our souls bless thee, our heavenly father. But above all we give thanks to thy infinite grace, that thou hast given thy well beloved son,

Jesus Christ, out of exceeding great mercy towards us poor sinners, and that thou continuest to send thy holy Spirit into the hearts of thy faithful people, to fill them with comfort and the hope of everlasting life. O Lord, our God, for all these riches of thy grace, accept the sacrifice of our praise.

Awaken, O Lord, all such as know thee not, and all secure sinners, by the call and divine power of thy word, and pour out thy Spirit upon all thy churches to revive them. Have mercy upon the nations, still sitting in the shadow of death, and send unto them thy light and thy truth. Protect and direct the messengers of the gospel in all countries, and endow them with wisdom, strength and patience, according to their need.

The desires and wants of all our Christian Brethren we lay upon thy heart, O Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. We commend to thy care all christian rulers and magistrates. Direct them through thy good Spirit, that they may govern according to thy good pleasure. Fill the office of the christian ministry with faithful men, who know thy word, and seek not their own honor, but thine, O Lord, and long for the salvation of the flock of Christ. Bless the married estate with every blessing that pertaineth to eternal life and godly conduct; help parents to train their children in thy fear; grant unto children grateful and obedient hearts. Bless us with healthful

and fruitful seasons. Give increase to the fruits of the earth and mercifully turn away from us sickness and war and other plagues. Succour and comfort the afflicted, the sick and the poor, widows and fatherless children, and all such as are oppressed and desolate, having none to help and to save them but thee; give them patience under their sufferings, and a happy issue out of all their afflictions. Stay the hands of all persecutors and violent men among the people who call themselves after Christ thy son. Bless and defend thy church. Preserve among us and among our children the truth of the gospel and the blessings of thy divine peace through the mediation of the true prince of peace, thy dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

(Here follows the reading of the lessons of the day, or of the Gospel and Epistle, then the principal hymn, which is succeeded by the sermon, introduced and concluded with extempore prayer, the Lord's prayer, the final verse and the blessing. See the blessings at the end of the morning service.)

III. Catechetical Service.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF CHILDREN AND CATECHUMENI.

(This service is to be held on Sunday afternoons, and may take the place of the regular afternoon service. It is commenced by the minister pronouncing the blessing and the congregation singing a hymn, whereupon one of the following prayers is offered.)

O Lord Jesu Christ, thou great prophet, instructor of the foolish and teacher of babes, who didst thyself in thy youth, when thou wast twelve years of age, sit in the

temple in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions.—We are here assembled in thy house both to hear of the foundation of faith, the doctrine of godliness, the great truths of the christian religion by which alone men are saved; and to be questioned upon them so as to be built up effectually in the knowledge of thee, our Saviour. To this intent give unto us the grace of thy holy Spirit; open our eyes that we may behold wonderous things out of thy law; open all our hearts; open our understandings, that we may grow in the knowledge of thy holy Word, so that, being built upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, whose cornerstone thou art, O Lord Jesu, and safely kept from all corruption of Satan and the world, we may at last receive the end of our faith, even the salvation of souls. Amen.

Or:

Merciful and only wise God and Father, since we are born in sin and in such ignorance that we are unable to know either ourselves, or thee, who art the only true God, and Him, whom thou hast sent into the world, in which knowledge yet standeth eternal life, wherewithal shall a young man, wherewithal man from his youth up, correct this innate fault and cleanse his ways? how direct the course of his life towards God and everlasting salvation, unblamably and steadfastly? Even by taking heed according to thy word, which is a lamp unto our

feet and a light unto our path. Wherefore we beseech thee not to let thy word remain shut up and hid from us, who are but strangers and pilgrims upon this earth. Give unto us the Spirit of wisdom; enlighten our minds, that we may receive thy truth in pureness and sincerity. Give us that due sense of all thy mercies and so renew our hearts, that we may show forth thy praise not only with our lips, but in our lives; so that in nothing we may offend thy divine Majesty, walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life, through whom alone men come to thee, O Father everlasting; and in whose name we further pray unto thee:

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

(Then follows the catechization, after which the minister offers a concluding prayer from the heart, and, after the singing of a verse, pronounces the blessing. Instead of the extemporeaneous prayer the following may be read, especially when a large number of children is attending.)

O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens. Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast ordained praise. How graciously dost thou say to us:

"my son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: for length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: so shalt thou find favor and good understanding in the sight of God and man?" How great is the lovingkindness of thy only begotten son, Jesus Christ, commanding that we should be brought to him, saying that ours is the kingdom of heaven, and blessing us! We give thanks unto thee from the depth of our souls that thou hast drawn us to thyself in our infancy, and given us the assurance of adoption through holy baptism, that thou causest us to be fed with the pure milk of thy divine word and to be trained to a holy and blessed life. We most heartily beseech thee, to grant unto us grace that we may grow and wax strong in the Spirit, and increase in wisdom and stature, and in favor with all men who fear and honor thee, and with thee, our faithful God and Father, so that, as long as sun and moon endure, there may be a people on the earth who know thee and are saved by thee, for the sake of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Or:

Gracious God and father, we give thanks unto thee, that thou hast again vouchsafed unto us instruction in the things pertaining to our salvation. Cause thy bless-

ing to rest upon the word which we have heard and grant, that we all, young and old, may keep it in an honest and good heart. Fulfil in us thy promise, that thy word and spirit shall not depart from us, nor from our children for all generations. Teach our children in their early years, that if they would cleanse their way, they must take heed according to thy word. Grant, that they all may remember thee, their Creator, in the days of their youth, and, after the example of the most holy child, Jesus, increase as in age, so in wisdom and favor with thee and man, so as to be blessed both here and hereafter. Hear us, our heavenly father for thy son, Jesus Christ his sake. Amen.

Appendix A.

COLLECTS APPOINTED FOR SUNDAYS.

1.

Lord our God, thou art light, and in thee is no darkness at all. Thou hast sent thine only begotten Son into the world, that whosoever followeth Him, may not walk in darkness but have the light of eternal life in him. Therefore we beseech thee, O Lord, to send forth this day thy light and thy truth to guide us into the way of life. Let the word which is preached among us be the light of our foot, and the lamp of our path. Show unto us by thy Spirit the secrets of our hearts; mortify

all our selfish desires; deliver us from the deceitfulness of our own hearts; abase us, that we may be exalted by thee; cleanse us from all defilement of the flesh and the spirit, that we may be filled with the abundance of the good and perfect gifts of thy grace. and thou mayest dwell in our hearts. Change us into thy glorious image and grant that thy surpassing knowledge may become the beginning within us of eternal life even in this world. Abundantly bless, O Lord, this day which is consecrated unto thee. Effectually work through thy Holy Spirit in the hearts of all who preach, or hear, or read thy Word this day, and have mercy upon those as neglect thy precious Gospel, so as to cause their mind to be touched by the testimony of thy truth, to the intent that thy name may be hallowed, thy kingdom extended and the salvation of many souls advanced. Grant unto us, heavenly Father, these our petitions for the sake of Jesus Christ, thy son, our Lord. Amen.

2.

Lord God, our heavenly Father, we beseech thee in child-like confidence that thou mayest be pleased so to enlighten and govern us by thy holy Spirit, that we may hear and receive thy Word with our whole heart and thus duly sanctify thy day of rest by being ourselves sanctified through thy Word. Fill all the Ministers of thy Word with the light and power of the Holy Ghost, that as

living witnesses of thy Grace they may preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, pure and unadulterated. Grant unto all men, especially unto such as labor and are heavy laden, unto the sick and dying, the blessings of this day of rest. Vouchsafe unto us thy Grace, that putting all our confidence and hope in Jesus Christ, thy Son, directing our ways according to thy Word and being kept from all offences, we may follow after our Saviour with faithful constancy until we come to the end of our pilgrimage and enter into thy heavenly kingdom. Amen.

3.

Lord Jesu, thou most blessed and perfect rest of the souls of all such as believe, thou hast said: Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give rest unto your souls. Therefore from the world which cannot satisfy our souls, we turn unto thee, who by thy life, passion and death hast overcome the world. We heartily beseech thee to let our souls find rest in the enjoyment of thy love, comfort and peace. Grant that we may truly know thee, long after thee only, and have our joy and delight in thee, until thou bringest us to that heavenly and everlasting rest, in thy presence, where there is fulness of joy, and at thy right hand, where there are pleasures for evermore. Amen.

4.

Our God and Father, who art our salvation and consolation for evermore, thou hast given us grace to assemble and meet together for worshipping thee in holy fear. Behold, we have taken upon us to speak unto thee, though we are dust and ashes. Thou hast said: seek ye my face. Our heart says unto thee: thy face, Lord, will I seek. Hide not thy face from us, for we hold fast the word of thy truth. We love the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honour dwelleth, where we publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works. Blessed be thou God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thou hast blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ. Bless us now and evermore in him and through him, so that we may be and remain the blessed of the Lord. Send down upon us thy Holy Spirit to lead us into all truth, the spirit of grace to establish us in the faith, the spirit of prayer to keep us in communion with thee, the spirit of power to strengthen us for the good fight, the spirit of peace and hope to preserve our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus unto life eternal. Amen.

5.

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such

wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

6.

O God, whose blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of the devil, and make us the sons of God, and heirs of eternal life; grant us, we beseech thee, that having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure, that, when he shall appear again with power and glory, we may be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where with thee, O Father, and thee, O Holy Ghost, he liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

COLLECTS APPOINTED FOR HOLY-DAYS.

In Advent.

Almighty and everlasting God, we render unto thee hearty thanks that thou hast sent thy only begotten Son Jesus Christ in the fulness of time to come down unto us. Graciously grant unto us faith always to rejoice in his advent in the flesh and steadfastly to believe, that he came into the world to save us miserable sinners. Vouchsafe, O God of truth, that he may come unto us now through his word and holy Sacraments, and that

our hearts may be so prepared by the power of his spirit, that he may abide in them continually. Quicken our souls that we may earnestly long for his second and last coming and when he appears to judge the world, joyfully meet him and enter with him into the kingdom of his eternal glory. Now unto thee, the king eternal and to the Son who liveth and reigneth with thee, be glory in the church throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Or:

Lord God, faithful and merciful, we give thanks and praises unto thee, that didst in the time of the Old Testament promise to the fathers, and foretell through the holy prophets the coming of thy only begotten Son and in the fulness of time hast sent him into the world to the intent, that he should reveal unto us all thy counsel and will, and bring thy blessing upon all nations. We beseech thee to vouchsafe unto us the help of thy Grace, cheerfully to prepare our hearts to receive him, that he may enter in, and even dwell and remain in us and amongst us with the healthful gifts which he has brought down for us from heaven. Grant, that he may continue to speak to us through his word and spirit, to destroy the power of indwelling sin, and to make us meet for the communion of the just made perfect. Keep us steadfast unto the end, according to

thy faithfulness, that we may be found unblamable on the day of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

On Christmas-day.

Lord God, our heavenly father, we give thee hearty thanks and praises, that having from eternity ordained thy only begotten son to be our Saviour, thou didst cause him to be born man in the fulness of time. Thou hast given him to the miserable race of Adam's children according to the riches of thy Grace in order that we being cleansed from the corruption of our carnal nature, and delivered from the curse of the law and the power of sin and death, may be made children and heirs of thy heavenly Kingdom. We pray thee, father of mercies, through thy spirit graciously to keep us and strengthen us in the knowledge of thy son, our Saviour, that his holy incarnation may ever be our comfort and our joy. Assist us also by the power of our new birth of the Spirit, to live unto thee and serve thee as obedient children, that in the world to come we may with all thy angels and elect people praise and magnify thee for ever and ever through thy son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Or:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Glory be to thy holy name for ever and ever. Thou

hast done great things for us; therefore we rejoice. For unto us is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. We give hearty thanks unto thee for thy great love which thou hast shown unto us in that thou hast sent thy son into the world, that we should live through him.

Honour and glory be unto thee, Lord Jesu, Thou hast become a child of Adam, that we might become Children of God. Thou hast for oursakes become poor, that we through thy poverty may become rich. Thou hast humbled thyself and taken upon thee the form of a servant, that through thee we may be created anew in the image of God. We all sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, but thou hast inclined the bowels of of God's mercy towards us. Thou hast descended from on high to bring us joy and peace, and out of thy fulness we all receive grace for grace; wherefore our soul sings for joy, saying: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Enter, our Lord and Saviour, we beseech thee, into our hearts which long after thee, and fill us with abundance of gifts out of thy heavenly riches. Govern us by thy good Spirit, and heal us by thy grace from the plague of sin. Comfort us, faithful Lord and Savior, in all our tribulations, help us in all our adversities, strengthen us amidst the temptations of this evil world, and fill us with joyful hope in our last agony.

Have mercy upon us, and give unto us thy peace, O Jesu. Amen.

On New years-day.

We thank thee, Lord God, our heavenly Father, that thou hast sent thy son into the world, and hast called him by the precious name of Jesus, which he received on the day of circumcision, when he became a member of the congregation of Israel. Remembering thy holy covenant, thou hast fulfilled the word of promise, that in the seed of Abraham all the nations of the earth shall be blessed. Therefore the residue also of all thy promises must be yea and Amen in Christ Jesu. We heartily beseech thee, so to work in us through thy holy Spirit, that, ever trusting in his manifestation in the flesh and in the precious name of Jesus with steadfast faith, we may commence the new year in a godly manner by mortifying the old man, and pass through the same under thy gracious protection. Amen.

Or:

Lord God, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations; Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting thou art God. We are dust and ashes, we are but of yesterday, and our days upon earth are a shadow; but thou art the same, and thy

years shall have no end. We are sinners and our transgression is before thy face. But thou, O Lord, art our Father and our Saviour. From of old this is thy name. Who can tell all thy wondrous works, and praise all thy mighty acts? Who shall recompense thee for all thy goodness, which thou hast done unto us! How excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. Thou art our help and comfort for ever and ever, therefore our soul seeketh thee in the beginning of the new year, which by thy grace we have lived to see. Our days, that shall be, are written in thy book. Into thy hands we commit our bodies and lives, our souls and spirits. Grant that Jesus Christ, thy only begotten son, the everlasting sun of righteousness, which brings light and life to the world, (from the rising to the going down thereof,) may rise anew in our hearts. Give unto us thy holy spirit to be our guide in the way of life, that we may walk in our way safely and our feet not stumble. O faithful keeper of Israel, who neither slumberest nor sleepest, take us anew under thy almighty protection, be the light and strength of our life in all our ways. Everlasting God, do not withdraw thy hand from us. Forsake us not. We wait for thy salvation. Help us, Lord. O Lord, prosper the work of our hands. Amen.

On Epiphany day.

Father of lights, we magnify and praise thy tender mercy, whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Of thy grace we have received Christ, who is our peace and has gathered unto himself from all the nations of the earth a church, to make known by it the riches of thy manifold wisdom and goodness. We thank thee, Father of mercies, for the unspeakable blessing that we are called thy people and thy children. Do thou endue us with power to offer unto thee the true sacrifices of thanksgiving and adoration through thy only begotten son, in whom thy loving kindness has appeared unto us. Enlarge more and more the borders of thy kingdom, and let the nations in the ends of the earth behold thy light and rejoice in the brightness of thy glory. Govern us, who have received the earnest of thy grace, through thy holy Spirit, that we may walk in thy light as children of the light, and both hate and flee the unfruitful works of darkness. Finally, grant, that we may enter into the light before thy heavenly throne, there to behold thy glory in the face of our Lord Jesus Christ, and praise thee for ever and ever, world without end. Amen.

Or:

Everlasting God, Father of lights from whom cometh down every good gift and every perfect gift, we give thanks and praises unto thee, that thou hast sent thy only begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the true light of men, into the world, and hast appeared in him unto all men, and hast called us also from darkness into thy marvellous light through thy holy gospel. We pray thee that thou wouldest let this heavenly light always shine in us and among us through grace, and so illuminate the darkness of this world by the ministration of true witnesses of the truth, that all eyes be opened and all men know thee, and him, whom thou hast sent, Jesus Christ, thy son. Pour out thy holy spirit upon all flesh. Prepare the way for thy word, that men's hearts may be opened to it and that everywhere souls be renewed, sanctified, comforted and blessed by the same.

Father of mercies, send laborers into thy great harvest, send forth messengers to call the gentiles from darkness into thy light; uphold their courage under all struggles and adversities, protect them from all dangers. Go forth with them to the battle, that idolatry may be abolished, that the heathens may give glory unto thee; that far isles and lands may publish thy glory. O Lord of Lords, hasten the time when the prayer: thy kingdom come, thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven, be accomplished to the glory of thy name. Amen.

On Good Friday.

Lord Jesu Christ, thou Lamb of God, we give hearty thanks unto thee, that thou hast borne the sins of the world, and by thy passion and death hast made atonement for us. Thou gavest thyself into the hands of sinners, and wast for our sakes mocked, and scourged, crowned with thorns and crucified. Vouchsafe grace unto us, we beseech thee, that by the devout contemplation of thy holy passion and death we may be humbled in heart, comforted amidst all temptations in life and death, and strengthened with might in our fight against sin and the world. Thou hast given us, O dearly beloved Saviour, an example, that we should follow thy foot-steps; grant, that looking unto thee, the beginner and finisher of our faith, we may run with patience the race that is set before us, and receive the end of faith, even the salvation of souls, so that for thy exceeding great love we may praise and glorify thee ever world without end. Amen.

Or:

Lord Jesu, from the depth of our hearts we give unto thee thanks, praise and glory, that through thy death thou hast destroyed him that had the power of death, that is, the devil, and delivered us who through fear of death must have been all our lifetime subject to bondage. We humbly entreat thee to vouchsafe unto us thy grace

that being made partakers of thy death, we may die unto ourselves and unto sin, and henceforth walk in newness of life. Grant that at the hour of death we may trust and rejoice in thy precious merit, and receive our souls, when we depart, into thy hands; for thou hast redeemed us, O faithful Saviour. Amen.

Or :

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we render unto thee hearty thanks, that thou hast given thine only begotten son to die for us, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Thou didst bruise him for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. Behold us not in our own state defiled as we are by sin, but look upon us in Jesus Christ, thy son, the holy one and well beloved, and pardon our large and heavy debt for the sake of the all-sufficient sacrifice which he has offered for us in Gethsemane and on Golgotha.

O Lord Jesu, so set before our eyes this day thy unfathomable love, that our cold and dead hearts may kindle with a fervent desire to love thee only and above all things, who hast loved us unto death. Give grace unto us to meditate on thy passion with a contrite and penitent heart and lively faith. Let thy cross be our refuge, when the law and our own consciences accuse

and our sins condemn us. Cease not, our heavenly Highpriest, to intercede for us all, saying: Father, forgive them.

Our faithful Saviour, grant that by the effectual working of thy death in us, we may be brought to hate and loathe sin, to crucify our flesh, to mortify its carnal lusts and desires and to live unto thee only in this world. And if it be thy good pleasure to draw us into the fellowship of thy sufferings, make us willing and constant to suffer with thee, that when thou appearest, we may be made partakers of thy glory. Amen.

On Easter Day.

Most blessed Saviour, our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast in triumph risen from the grave to the comfort of all believers and to the glory of thy great name, how shall we praise thee worthily on this day of solemn remembrance of thy resurrection? Because thou hast conquered, therefore we know in whom we believe, and are persuaded that thou art able to keep that which we have committed unto thee against that day. Thou wast taken from distress and judgment, therefore the curse of condemnation is abolished from all who rise with thee in newness of life. Lord Jesu, thou art the resurrection and the life, therefore, we beseech thee, live henceforth also in us, who this day praise and glorify

thee for thy unsearchable love and mercy. Awaken us by the power of thy Holy Spirit from the sleep of sin, deaden every evil desire still dwelling in our bodies of death, and strengthen us by true repentance and sincere faith to walk before thee in newness of life: Vanquish and overcome the world within us, thou mighty conqueror, abide according to thy promise, with thy faithful people unto the end of the world, and vouchsafe unto us thy perfect peace wherein are hid all heavenly gifts of strength, consolation, victory, eternal joy and blessedness.

Lord Jesu, our heavenly captain, when thou wilt appear, we also shall appear with thee in thy glory; then this corruptible will put on incorruption, and this mortal put on immortality, and all who now amidst fightings and fears trust in thee and the power of thy resurrection, will glory together and shout for joy saying: O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Or:

Blessed be thy name, O God our father, who hast raised thy Son Jesus Christ from the dead, and set him at thy right hand above the heavens, crowned with honor and glory, and made him the living head and Lord of his Church for ever and ever. We give

hearty praises to thy great love, wherewith thou hast loved us in Christ Jesus together with whom thou hast quickened us, and raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places, when we were dead in trespasses and sins. Praise and glory be unto thee, Lord Jesu, who wast dead, but art alive for evermore. Thou causest us to-day anew to hear thy word saying: I live and ye shall live also, thereby raising us together with thyself into the true heavenly life, and making us partakers, through faith, of thy great victory and all the glorious fruits of thy death and resurrection. Give grace unto us, that henceforth we may not live unto ourselves, but unto thee, who hast died and risen for us. Cause all men to hear the voice of thy grace, saying: Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our Father also in him, God of peace, who hast brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work to do thy will, working in us that which is well pleasing in thy sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

O n t h e A s c e n s i o n d a y .

O Lord Jesu Christ, the only Saviour of all men, who, after thou hadst finished the work of our redemption, didst ascend into heaven and sit down at the right hand of the father, we look up to thee in faith, and rejoice in thy glory. Grant unto us grace to turn our hearts away from this perishing world, to set little store by earthly things, but ardently to desire after thee and the things that are above. Grant that with our minds and hearts we may have our conversation in heaven, and that our affections may be set not upon earthly, but upon heavenly things. Grant, that when this poor life passeth away our souls may ascend into thy heavenly kingdom, there ever to be present with thee, our head and king, and to behold thy glory from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.

Or:

O God, the king of glory, who hast, as at this day, exalted thine only Son, Jesus Christ with great triumph unto thy kingdom in heaven; we beseech thee, leave us not comfortless; but send to us thine Holy Ghost to comfort us, and exalt us unto the same place whither our Saviour Christ is gone before, now through devout prayer, lively faith, holy conversation, and hearty longings after our heavenly home, and at last through a joyful death and resurrection in the name of Jesus Christ,

who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,
one God, world without end. Amen.

Or:

Lord Jesu Christ, who hast ascended on high and set thyself at the right hand of thy heavenly father, with great joyfulness we give thanks unto thee, that thou hast delivered us from the bondage of sin and death, and overcome all the enemies of our salvation. Unto thee is given all power and authority in heaven and earth. Therefore, O Lord, proteet and keep thy Church, enlarge its borders unto the ends of the earth, comfort and sanetify thy faithful people, and be with us always according to thy promise, through thy word and thy Spirit, until thou appearest the second time in thy glory, to translate us into thy heavenly kingdom. Amen.

On the day of Pentecost.

God, who as at this time, didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by sending to them the light of thy Holy Spirit, and lay the foundation of the new and living temple of the Church of Christ, grant us by the same spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy eomfort, to have our hearts cleansed and to be defended from the wiles of the adversary, so that thy people may not be turned aside by

the assaults of the enemy, but be led into all truth, according to the promise of thy son, our dear Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Or:

We thank thee, gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that thou hast sent the promised comforter into the world, and hast given him unto us as the earnest of our heavenly inheritance. Pour out thy spirit more and more abundantly upon thy Church, which is in Christ Jesus; establish thy kingdom in our hearts; lead us from darkness into light, from the bondage of sin into the glorious liberty of thy children.

Yea, come, holy Spirit; leave not thyself this day without witness in any one of us here present; bless all thy faithful people with a rich measure of thy gifts lead all such as are doubleminded to singleness of purpose, and quicken into new life such as sleep in sin, and are dead in trespasses. Make thy strength perfect in our weakness; help us to watch and pray, lest we fall into temptation; strengthen our faith, our love, our obedience, and our patience. Glorify Christ in us, and give witness to our spirit, that we are members of his body and children of God.

Cause the day-spring from on high to rise upon such as are sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Grant, that thy gospel may be preached far and wide, until thy wonderful works be published in all tongues. Daily add such as believe in the name of Jesus Christ. Be thou the bond of peace in all congregations. Lead us all on to oneness of faith and to the knowledge of the son of God, since thou hast called us into one body, until there be fulfilled the word of promise that there shall be one shepherd and one flock, and God be all in all. Amen.

On Trinity Sunday.

Holy and most blessed God, we give hearty thanks unto thee that thou hast most graciously revealed to us the great mystery of godliness and hast given grace to thy servants by the confession of a true faith to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the unity; we beseech thee, that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith, and evermore defend us from all adversities; and since thou, O true and everlasting God, according to thy great mercy, hast created, redeemed, and sanctified us, extend unto us furthermore thy love, grace and fellowship. Finally, receive us into the kingdom of thy eternal glory, where we shall behold with our eyes what we have believed here, and for evermore with all thy angels and

elect children praise and glorify thee, the triune God,
Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

On the anniversary of the establishment of a new
Station.

(to be read on the Sunday following.)

We give thanks unto thee, Lord God our heavenly Father, that through thy word and thy holy Spirit thou didst establish among us—years ago a church, and hast hitherto faithfully protected it, and graciously preserved to us thy Gospel and this place of common worship. Thus long hast thou planted and watered us, yet there has, alas, been little fruit. We therefore humble ourselves before thee, and entreat thee to pardon all our sloth and unfaithfulness, and to quicken the life of our faith and our love to thee through the blood of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ. We pray thee, that thou wouldest keep us and our children on the sure foundation of the true faith and in the communion of all saints. Send at all times godly ministers, who feed the flock faithfully, rightly divide thy word, and, as becometh good stewards, do not shun to declare the whole council of God. So govern by thy grace the hearts of all hearers, that they may become not joyful hearers only, but honest doers of the word. Give increase to thy kingdom everywhere. Especially we entreat thee, to bless the preaching of thy

word in this place. Grant, that thy word may richly dwell in our houses. Finally receive us into thy heavenly sanctuary, there to serve thee in the beauty of holiness, and to behold thy glory, through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Appendix B.

PRAYERS AND THANKSGIVINGS UPON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

For the extension of the kingdom of God upon earth.

O merciful God, who hast made all men, and hatest nothing that thou hast made, nor wouldest the death of a sinner; but rather, that he should be converted and live; Have mercy upon all Jews, Turks, Infidels and Heretics, and take from them all ignorance, hardness of heart, and contempt of thy word; and so fetch them home, blessed Lord, to thy flock, that they may be saved among the remnant of the true Israelites, and be made one fold under one shepherd, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.

Or:

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank thee that thou hast given us power to become thy children through thy son, and to find in him life and fulness of joy. Grant, O Lord, in mercy, that thy peace which passeth all understanding, may go forth from the church

of thy son into all the world. Many nations yet remain without the light of thy grace. Kindle therefore our zeal in advancing the spread of thy Gospel by hearty supplications, and by offering unto thee sacrifices of thanksgiving with cheerful and openhanded liberality. Succour the messengers of thy salvation, that by their ministry the borders of thy kingdom may be enlarged more and more. Sanctify them wholly, and render them fit instruments of thy glory. Prepare the hearts of the nations which do not yet know thy name, that they may willingly receive thy ambassadors. Everywhere open the doors for the entering in of thy word, and grant that it may accomplish the purpose for which thou sendest it. Multiply everywhere faith and love, wisdom and power, that thy name may be glorified from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof, and every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is the Lord, to thy honor, henceforth and for evermore Amen.

For the Queen's Government.

Almighty and everlasting God, we are taught by thy holy word, that the hearts of kings are in thy rule and governance, and that thou dost dispose and turn them as it seemeth best to thy godly wisdom: We humbly beseech thee so to dispose and govern the heart of Victoria

thy servant, our Queen and Governor, and of the magistrates and authorities who rule this land; that in all their thoughts, words and works they may ever seek thy honor and glory, and study to preserve thy people committed to their charge, in wealth, peace, and godliness: Grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For the fruits of the earth.

Almighty God, Father of mercies, who by thy divine power hast created all things; who openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing; we humbly beseech thee, that thou wouldest crown our fields with thy heavenly benediction, and send us such moderate rain and showers, and cause the sun to shine in due season, that we may receive the fruits of the earth to our comfort. But above all things so plant thy word in our hearts, that we may bring forth the fruits of righteousness, and receive and enjoy the gifts of thy goodness in grateful remembrance of thee, the giver, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

For deliverance from trouble.

Lord our God and Father, out of the depths we cry unto thee, hear our voice: let thine ear be attentive to the voice of our supplication. Deliver us from the

troubles that have befallen us. If thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, who shall stand? But we hope in thee, for with thee there is mercy, and with thee is plenteous redemption. Have mercy, then, upon us, and asswage the distress with which thou hast visited us. Turn away from us still heavier afflictions according to thy mercy. Comfort, strengthen, deliver thy dismayed people. Let this affliction and tribulation serve to draw our hearts to thee, that they who have sown with tears may reap with joy on that day. Hear us, O God, for Jesus Christ his sake. Amen.

In time of war.

Almighty God, king of all kings, and governor of all things, whose power no creature is able to resist, to whom it belongeth justly to punish sinners, and to be merciful to them that truly repent; save and deliver us, we humbly beseech thee, from the hands of our enemies, abate their pride, asswage their malice, and confound their devices; that we, being armed with thy defence, may be preserved evermore from all perils, to glorify thee, who art the only giver of victory; through the merits of thy only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the time of any common plague or sickness.

O Almighty God, who in thy wrath didst send a plague upon thine own people in the wilderness for their obstinate rebellion against Moses and Aaron; and also, in the time of king David, didst slay with the plague of pestilence three score and ten thousand, and yet remembering thy mercy didst save the rest; have pity upon us miserable sinners, who now are visited with great sickness and mortality; that like as thou didst then accept of an atonement, and didst command the destroying angel to cease from punishing, so it may now please thee to withdraw from us this plague and grievous sickness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For sick persons.

Father of mercies, who hast commanded us in thy word that we should pray one for another, we come before thee to offer up supplication for a sick member of our congregation. Sanctify, we beseech thee, this thy fatherly correction to him (her); that the sense of his (her) weakness may add strength to his (her) faith, and seriousness to his (her) repentance. Strengthen and quicken his (her) very soul by the word of promise that thou wilt be a father full of loving kindness to the sick and afflicted. Give him (her) patience under his

(her) sufferings, and a happy issue out of all his (her) afflictions. And this we beg for Jesus Christ his sake. Amen.

Thanksgiving for deliverance.

How excellent is thy loving kindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. Thou hast brought great sorrow and distress upon us; yet if it had not been for thee, who wast on our side, when afflictions overwhelmed us, we should have clean gone. To thee, O Lord, belongeth honor and praise for that thy strong shield has defended and thy mighty hand delivered us. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. Blessed be the Lord God, who only doeth wondrous things, and blessed be his glorious name for ever and ever. Amen.

Appendix C.

The Litany.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

O God the Father of heaven,

O God, the Son, the Saviour of the world,

O God, the Holy Ghost,

Have mercy upon us.

Be gracious unto us; spare us good Lord.

From all sin,

From all error,

From all evil,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From the crafts and assaults of the devil,

From the sudden death of the wicked,

From pestilence and famine,

From battle and murder,

From rebellion and discord,

From lightning and tempest,

From fires and floods,

Good Lord, deliver us.

From contempt of thy word and commandment,

From hardness of heart, from envy, hatred and
malice,

From pride, vain glory, and hypocrisy,

From the deceitfulness of sin,

And from eternal death,

Good Lord, deliver us.

By thy holy nativity and circumcision,

By thy baptism, fasting and temptation,

By thine agony and bloody sweat,

By the sorrow and anguish of thy soul,

By thy bonds, mockings and scourging,

By thy cross and passion,
By thy precious death and burial,
By thy glorious resurrection and ascension,
By the coming of the Holy Ghost,
In all time of our tribulation,
In the hour of death,
In the day of judgment,
Good Lord, deliver us.

We miserable sinners beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God,
And that it may please thee to rule and govern thy
holy Church universal in the right way,
To reveal the mystery of the cross to all such as are
called by thy name,
To unite in one spirit all the children of God,
To give true knowledge of thy word to all pastors and
ministers of thy Church, and that both by their
preaching and living they set it forth, and shew it
accordingly,
To put down all false doctrine, heresy and schism,
To bring into the way of truth all such as have erred,
and are deceived,
To beat down Satan under our feet,
To send faithful labourers into thy harvest,
To let thy Spirit and power accompany the word,
To comfort and help the afflicted and weak-hearted,
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

O Lord, who art the light and consolation of the Gentiles,

Stretch out thine hand, upon the messengers of thy grace travelling by sea and by land,

Lay thy Spirit and fire upon the word of their testimony,

Keep such as thou hast gathered from among the Gentiles,

And visit the residue of the gentiles,

Deliver thy people Israel from its blindness,

O that Ishmael might live before thee!

We beseech thee, to hear us, good Lord.

Give peace and concord to all kings and rulers.

Direct and protect Victoria our Queen, thy servant, all her family, and all her councillors and ministers,

Bless and keep our country, our town, and our congregation,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

Succour, help and comfort, all that are in danger, necessity and tribulation;

Preserve all that travel by land or by water, all women laboring of child, all sick persons and young children, and show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, upon all aged and infirm persons.

Defend and provide for the fatherless children, and

widows, and all that are desolate and oppressed.
Have mercy upon all men,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.
That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, per-
secutors and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,
That it may please thee to give and preserve to
our use the kindly fruits of the earth, so as in
due time we may enjoy them,

That it may please thee to establish the work of
our hands upon us,

We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

O Jesu Christ Son of God,

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of
the world,

Have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of
the world,

Grant us thy peace.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, hear us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

(Then shall the minister and the people with him say :)

Our father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy
name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth,

as it is in heaven ; Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them, that
trespass against us ; And lead us not into temptation ; But
deliver us from evil. Amen.

Almighty God, who hast given us grace, at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy name, thou wilt grant their requests; fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

Or :

O Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty, we come before thy holy face to give honor, praise and thanks unto thee who hast hitherto poured out upon us a rich measure of spiritual and temporal blessings, and greatly blessed us even through manifold tribulations. We are not worthy of the least of all the mercies, and of all the truth which thou hast showed unto us. It is of thy

mercies, that we are not consumed, because thy compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness, O Father, for though, instead of amending our lives, we have provoked, and do still provoke, thy wrath by our sins, which have multiplied among us, in our several conditions of life, which are best known to thee, O righteous God, and we cannot deny them, yet thou sparest us with more than fatherly longsuffering; and though the axe has long ago been laid to the root of us barren trees, yet, for the sake of Jesus Christ's intercession, thou lettest us stand, waiting to see, if thy goodness and longsuffering will lead us to repentance and produce in us the good fruit of a change of heart and life. O grant, then, our heavenly Father, that we may gratefully acknowledge this thy undeserved goodness, not scorning from us the riches of thy mercy so as to make ourselves henceforth unworthy of the continuance of thy spiritual and temporal blessings, but standing fast unto the end in thy grace through true faith with a conscience undefiled and in steadfast pursuit of holiness. To this intent work in us true repentance and change of heart, mind and disposition, that none of us may walk in presumptuous sins contrary to thy will, but that we may rather lay aside whatever is in us displeasing to thee, O holy God, and thereby obtain, and keep in our hearts, the assurance of our reconcilia-

tion and peace with thee. Put away, therefore, Almighty God, all offences, which might take from us thy grace and the spiritual and temporal blessings flowing from it. Bless Victoria, our Queen, thy servant, and our rulers and magistrates; grant and preserve to our congregations faithful ministers of the word of truth, pastors after thine own heart, preaching the gospel of peace in the power of the spirit and in sincerity. Bless the training of our children in schools and families, and endow those who attend to this responsible work, with wisdom, faithfulness and patience. Preserve by thy good spirit the souls of the young from the manifold temptations and corruptions of the world. Grant unto us, O Lord, peace everywhere and by all means, in public and private. Defend us from strife and contention in the church, and build up and enlarge thy congregation to the end of time. Bring to naught the insidious and crafty devices of its enemies. Take not from us the precious truth of the Gospel, which has been committed to us, though we have deserved to lose it by our ingratitude and coldness of heart, but preserve unto us thy word, that our children may inherit thy covenant, and the habitation of thy name be among us for ever and ever. Have mercy upon those also, who having received the like precious faith with us, suffer persecution and are in danger for the sake of it; be thou their counsellor,

defender and helper. Awaken us by thy grace, that we may always in our prayers remember them as members of one body, and diligently prepare ourselves against the hour of temptation. But above all things, grant unto us grace, that we may faithfully observe the covenant of our peace with thee made in baptism, and be kept from the sin of hypocrites abusing the blessed means of thy grace, thy Word and Sacraments.

Pour out thy heavenly benediction upon our country, that our wants may be supplied. Prosper the work of the tiller of the ground and the fruits of the earth; bless trade and manufactures. Grant that every man be diligent in his calling, that he may have to give to the needy. Defend us, as thou hast done in thy great mercy heretofore, from scarcity, dearth and famine, from war, sedition and rebellion, from fires and floods, from plague and pestilence among men and beasts. Pardon, O God, for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, all our sins and transgressions whereby we have deserved thy judgments and sore punishments, and grant that all chastisements and sufferings with which thou visitest us, may effectually call us to repentance and amendment of life. Pardon all our enemies and persecutors, loosen the bonds of darkness which bind yet so many miserable souls. Bring to an end the malice of the wicked, and prosper the undertakings of the righteous. Cherish, O Lord, all

godly people. Turn again such as have departed from thy way into crooked paths, and give unto them, and to us all, thy peace. Extend thy gracious protection to those who are at home, and to those who are abroad. Have mercy upon all that are desolate and oppressed, upon widows and fatherless children, upon the poor, the sick, the afflicted, the dying, the tempted, and grant that they, and we all, may be led to repentance, become steadfast in the faith, fervent in love, immovable in hope, devout and zealous in prayer, constant under crosses, firm against temptations, strong in our fight with sin, above all things earnest in longing and striving after the heavenly inheritance, true and faithful in the exercise of faith and godliness.

Have mercy upon all men, and, since there remaineth a rest to the people of God, give unto us thy spirit that we may labor to enter into this rest, lest any of us fail; and that we may be thine, and remain thine, whether we wake or sleep, whether we be present or absent, whether we live or die, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Savior, mediator, intercessor and prince of peace. Amen.

Second Part.

THE ORDER AND MANNER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS AND OTHER RITES AND CEREMONIES OF THE CHURCH.

I. Administration of Baptism.

I. Public Baptism of Infants.

(The minister coming to the baptistery shall say:)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the holy Spirit be with you all.

Dearly beloved, a child is here brought before us, that it may be presented to God by our common prayers, and baptized in accordance with the order and institution of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us hear, therefore, the words of command and promise which our Lord Jesus Christ has spoken to his Apostles concerning baptism. In the gospel by St. Matthew, in the twenty-eighth chapter, beginning at the eighteenth verse, it is thus written: All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. And in the gospel by St. Mark, in the sixteenth chapter, at the sixteenth verse it is thus written: He that believeth

and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not shall be damned.

Moreover in order to be further taught by holy writ, why we should present this child unto God, and ask for it the grace and gift of baptism, let us hear the gospel which teaches us, how Christ loved children, and that of such is the Kingdom of God, as it is written in the tenth chapter of the gospel of St. Mark at the thirteenth verse:

And they brought young children to Jesus, that he should touch them. And his disciples rebuked those that brought them; but when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them: Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you: whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them and blessed them.

Upon this word of our Lord we have here assembled in order to present this infant unto God and to beseech him, that he may receive it into the covenant of his grace through Jesus Christ. For every child of Adam is born in sin and misery, as St. Paul saith: By one man sin entered into the world and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. But the grace of God that bringeth salvation, hath appeared to all men. Through Christ life and im-

mortality have been brought to light. And for a sign and pledge of our salvation, he hath ordained the Sacrament of holy baptism, that all who receive it according to his word and ordinance, being washed and sanctified, may be made just and holy through his name and through the Spirit of our God. Therefore let our souls magnify the Lord; let our spirits rejoice in God our Savior. For he hath done to us great things. In our infancy his most tender mercies have prevented us, and now we are permitted to bring our children unto him with joy, in order that they also may be born again of water and of the spirit, and receive the fulness of grace unto life everlasting.

Let us therefore commend this present infant to his (her) and our Savior, and pray that all the blessings of baptism, in this life and in that which is to come, may be granted unto him (her), so that he (she) may in the power of the holy Spirit fight the good fight against sin, and the world, and the devil, finish his (her) course in faith, and receive the crown of righteousness in heaven.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and in earth is named, we call upon thee for this Infant, that he (she) coming to thy holy baptism, may receive remission of

sin by spiritual regeneration. Receive him (her) O Lord, as thou hast promised by thy well beloved Son, saying, ask, and ye shall have; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: So give now unto us that ask, let us that seek find; open the gate unto us that knock; that this Infant may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. Amen.

Or:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who hast in love promised unto us that thou wouldest be a God and Father unto us and unto our children; we humbly beseech thee to fulfil this gracious promise also in behalf of this present Infant. Receive him (her) into the church of thy Son, by baptism into his death. Make him (her) partaker of the fruits of his atonement, and sanctify him (her) through thy Spirit in this life, that in the life to come he (she), being thy child, may inherit thy heavenly Kingdom. Thy grace, O God, be and remain upon him (her). Amen.

Or:

Heavenly Father, thou hast granted this Infant life and favour, and thy visitation has preserved its spirit, and now thou callest it to the blessed privilege of adop-

tion, in Christ Jesu. We therefore joyfully commend him (her) to thy holy keeping, that thou wouldest shield and defend him (her) from all dangers of soul and body, cause thy countenance to shine upon him (her) in all his (her) ways.

Lord Jesu Christ our Saviour, thou hast loved this child and bought him (her) with a price to be thine own. Wherefore now receive him (her) into thy fellowship, and grant unto him (her) what we ask for him (her); so that he (she) may now receive the fulness of the blessings of baptism and, in the world to come, that heavenly inheritance which fadeth not away. O Spirit of the Father and of the Son, descend upon the soul of this Infant, and prepare in it an habitation unto thyself. Fill him (her) with thy gifts; sanctify and keep him (her) in the true faith; and, after he (she) hath suffered a while, make him (her) perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle him (her). Save him (her), O God Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yea save us all, that serving thee faithfully unto death, we may receive the end of our faith, even the salvation of our souls. Amen.

Our Father which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that tres-

pass against us. And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Lord preserve thy going out and thy coming
in from this time forth, and even for ever more.

(Then shall the Minister speak to the Parents and Sponsors in this wise.)

Beloved in the Lord, let us consider how solemn a duty we all, as many of us as have been baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, owe to Infants whom he has loved so heartily, and whom he has purchased with his own blood. "Woe unto him", he says, "who shall offend one of these little ones." Whatever loss in matters of salvation a child may sustain through the fault of such as have received of the Lord the charge of its education, he will require of their souls. Whatever christian love and faithfulness may do unto one of these little ones, he will regard as done unto himself. Therefore ye, who are the parents of this Infant, whose hearts God's Almighty goodness has gladdened by his (her) birth, ought to make it your chief care, how to bring him (her) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, so that his (her) soul may take no hurt, nor the work of the holy Spirit be hindered in him (her). And therefore we do likewise exhort and beseech you, beloved elders, who witness this baptism as representatives of the congregation, and whose special duty it is to receive the Infants of the congregation in the name of Jesus, diligently to remember this Infant before

God in earnest intercession, and faithfully as far as lies in you, to provide for his (her) temporal and eternal welfare. But, that it may be publicly known, in what faith this Infant is baptized, answer me in the presence of this christian congregation:

Question: Do you believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth?

And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten son, our Lord; and that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; that he went down into hell, and also did rise again the third day; that he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; and from thence shall come at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And do you believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church, the Communion of Saints; the Remission of Sins; the Resurrection of the body; and everlasting life?

If you be firmly persuaded of these things, then answer: Yes, we believe.

A. Yes we believe.

Q. Do you renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh,

so that you will not follow, nor be led by them? If this be your earnest desire, then answer: yes we renounce them all.

A. Yes we renounce them all.

Q. Will you then obediently keep the holy will of God the Father, Son and Spirit, and walk in his commandments all the days of your lives? If this be the intent of your hearts, answer: We will do so, God being our helper.

A. We will do so, God being our helper.

(Then the Minister, turning to the Parents, shall demand:)

Q. Is it your will, that this Infant be baptized and brought up in this faith? If this be your will, answer: such is our will.

A. Such is our will.

(Then the Minister, turning to the Elders, shall demand:)

Q. Ye who are witnesses to this baptism, will you promise, on behalf of the congregation, your aid in the christian training of this Infant! If you are thus minded, answer: We promise.

A. We promise.

(Then the Minister shall three times pour water upon the forehead of the child, saying:)

N. I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

(Then the Minister shall lay his right hand upon the forehead of the Infant baptized, and say:)

God Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who freely gives to thee N., in the washing of regeneration, the fulness of his grace, strengthen thee through his spirit unto everlasting life. Amen.

Or:

The merciful God and Father, who has received thee N., by holy baptism into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ, keep thee in the enjoyment of his grace unto the end, and sanctify thee through his Spirit unto eternal life. Amen.

Or:

God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ grant unto thee N., the grace of his holy Spirit, that thou mayest hold the faith, overcome the world, and by his power be kept unto eternal life. Amen.

Let us pray:

Almighty and merciful God and Father, we give thanks and praises unto thee, for that thou graciously dost maintain and increase thy church and hast vouchsafed to this Infant through holy baptism to be incorporated into the church of thy dear Son, our only Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to be made thy child and heir of thy heavenly kingdom; we heartily beseech thee, that thou wouldest preserve the benefit now received to this child, now thy own child by adoption, that accord-

ing to thy good pleasure and to the praise and glory of thy holy name, he (she) may be brought up most faithfully and religiously, remain obedient unto thee amidst the temptations of this world, and finally obtain with all saints the promised inheritance of thy heavenly kingdom through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Or:

We yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate this Infant with thy holy Spirit, to receive him (her) for thine own child by adoption, and to incorporate him (her) into thy holy church. And humbly we beseech thee to grant, that he (she) being dead unto sin, and living unto righteousness, and being buried with Christ in his death, may crucify the old man, and utterly abolish the whole body of sin; and that, as he (she) is made partaker of the death of thy son, he (she) may also be partaker of his resurrection; so that finally, with the residue of thy holy church, he (she) may be an inheritor of thine everlasting kingdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen.

2. Public Baptism of such as are of riper years.

(The Minister addressing such as have presented themselves for the administration of baptism, shall say:)

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin (and that which is born of the flesh is flesh), and they that are in the flesh cannot please God, but live in sin, committing many actual transgressions; and that our Savior Christ saith, None can enter into the kingdom of God, except he be regenerate and born anew of water and of the Holy Ghost; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous goodness he will grant to *these persons* that which by nature *they* cannot have; that *they* may be baptized with water and the Holy Ghost and received into Christ's holy Church, and be made lively *members* of the same.

(Then shall the Minister say:)

Let us pray:

Merciful and gracious God and Father, thy goodness is great, thy wisdom unsearchable, thy power infinite. We praise thee for all thy goodness and all thy wonders which thou hast done unto us until this day. Thou didst create man after thy glorious likeness, and when he had fallen into sin and come short of thy glory, thou

didst send the son of thy love, Jesus Christ, according to the exceeding riches of thy love, and gavest him unto us a Redeemer and Savior, that through him all men might be saved. And to the intent, that all might come to the knowledge of the heavenly truth, the Spirit of thy mouth has called all men through the gospel unto Jesus Christ who has said: him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out. Moreover thou hast ordained holy sacraments as wholesome means of thy grace for our salvation. O Lord, thy mercy toward us poor and miserable sinners is so great, that we cannot worthily thank thee for it. It is of this thy unmerited grace and unfathomable mercy, that the souls of *these thy servants*, born of heathen (Jewish) parents, are saved from destruction. For *they* were once without Christ, *aliens* from the common wealth of Israel, and *strangers* from the covenants of promise; but now, converted by thy mercy and united to Christ by faith, *they are* made nigh. Thy good Spirit has enlightened *them* and has given unto *them* the knowledge of redemption, the forgiveness of sins, so that *they* now see that which *they* saw not, neither could see by *their* own understandings. *They* now rejoice in *their* Savior and in that glory which *they have* in him through the faith kindled in *their* hearts by thy holy word, wherefore *they* give hearty praises to thy goodness. But, because thou hast said, that he who be-

lieveth and is baptized, shall be saved, these thy servants here present, and we all together with them beseech thy infinite goodness and mercy, O Father, that it may please thee to seal the work of grace, which thou hast begun in them, by the sacrament of baptism which thou hast instituted. O Lord, strengthen their faith, increase their hope, render their love more fervent, pour out upon them the gifts of thy Spirit abundantly, that after having become partakers of Christ, they may hold fast the faith, as it is in Jesus, do battle against flesh and blood, against Satan and against the world, and fight the good fight unto the end. Grant, that they hold firm the covenant of thy grace. Let thy peace which passeth all understanding, keep their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Give grace unto them, that they may not, as some have done, put away faith and a good conscience, and make shipwreck concerning faith. Do thou keep them by thy power through faith unto salvation. And this we beg in the name and for the sake of thy well beloved Son, by whom thou hast promised, saying: Ask, and ye shall receive; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: So give now unto them that ask; let them that seek find; open the gate unto them that knock; that these persons may enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing, and may come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil. Amen.

Beloved in the Lord, hear ye now the words of our Lord, whereby he has after his resurrection given command to his Apostles and instituted holy baptism. They are written in the twenty-eighth chapter of the gospel of St. Matthew, beginning at the eighteenth verse. All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

As you have been taught the way of the Triune God and have declared, that your desire is to become *disciples* of Jesus Christ, I call upon you in the presence of God and of this Christian Congregation to confess with your *mouths* that which you have believed with your *hearts*, and thus to enter into the covenant of divine grace.

(Then the Minister severally addressing each Candidate of Baptism shall ask:)

Question. Dost thou believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth? And in Jesus Christ

his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; descended into hell, on the third day rose again from the dead, ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead? And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting? If thou be firmly persuaded of these things, then answer: Yes I believe.

Answer: Yes I believe.

Q. Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that thou wilt not follow, nor be led by them? If this be thy earnest desire, then answer: Yes I renounce them all.

A. Yes I renounce them all.

Q. Wilt thou then obediently keep the holy will of God the Father, Son, and Spirit, and walk in his commandments all the days of thy life? If this be the intent of thy heart, answer: I will do so, God being my helper.

A. I will do so, God being my helper.

Q. Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

A. Yes, I will.

(Then shall the Minister take each person to be baptized by the right hand, place him conveniently by the Font and pour water upon him, saying,) (See page 11.)

N. I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of
the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

(Then the Minister shall lay his right hand upon the head of the person baptized, and say.)

God Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who freely gives to thee N. in the washing of regeneration,
the fulness of his grace, strengthen thee through
his Spirit unto everlasting life. Peace be with thee. Amen.

Let us pray:

Almighty and merciful God and Father, we yield unto thee thanks and praises, for that thou graciously dost maintain and increase thy church and hast vouchsafed to thy servant here present, to be incorporated into the church of thy dear Son, our only Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and to be made thy child and heir of thy heavenly kingdom; we heartily beseech thee, that thou wouldest preserve unto him the benefit now received and grant unto him grace duly to advance in true faith and holy living, to grow stronger and stronger in Christ which is the head, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ in all wisdom and righteousness and true holiness, not being tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine or the deceitful lusts of the world and the flesh, until he receive

with all Saints the promised inheritance through thy well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Or:

O Lord Jesu Christ, Son of God, thou hast said: if ye, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your heavenly father give the holy spirit to them that ask him. And thou hast likewise said: if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my father which is in heaven. Wherefore we beseech thee, so to strengthen this person, who has now received holy baptism, by the power of thy holy Spirit, that obeying thy holy gospel and manfully fighting against sin and Satan, he may neither grieve thy holy Spirit, nor give offence to his Brethren; but that the aim of his whole life be thy glory, the building up of thy church and the salvation of his own soul. And this we beg for the honor of thy name who reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Lord bless thee and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace. Amen.

**3. Private Baptism of Infants on
sudden emergencies.**

O Lord Jesu Christ, we offer unto thee this Infant beseeching thee to receive it as thine own, according to thy gracious word: Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.

N. I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

God Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who freely gives to thee N., in the washing of regeneration, the fulness of his grace, strengthen thee through his Spirit unto everlasting life. Amen.

The Lord bless thee and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace. Amen.

(In the absence of the Minister one of the elders of the congregation or a Catechist, or in the absence of such, if the child appear likely to die, the father of the same may perform the above service in the name of the Lord.)

II. The Order of Confirmation.

Our beginning be in the name of the Lord who has made heaven and earth. Amen.

Beloved in the Lord, the children here present, who by baptism have been made partakers together with us of the grace of God, have assembled for the purpose of

presenting themselves publicly before their Lord and Savior, and to renew the covenant of their baptism in the face of this christian congregation. By careful instruction in the truths of the gospel they have been brought to the knowledge of the way of salvation, and it is now their wish and desire to be made partakers of all the blessings which the Lord vouchsafes to his church and to unite themselves more closely with their Savior through the enjoyment of the blessed Sacrament of his holy Supper. Being ready to give an answer to every man that shall ask them a reason of the hope that is in them, they are willing publicly to confess the faith of our church before God and this christian congregation and solemnly to ratify and confirm their baptismal vow. Wherefore I exhort you all in the name of God, to hear the confession and promise of these dear children, in christian love, heartily and devoutly praying for them, that it may please God, to stablish and fulfil the good work which he has begun in them, through his holy Spirit.

Let us pray:

Our heavenly Father, who hast vouchsafed to these children to receive them through holy baptism into the blessed fellowship which is with thee and with thy Son Jesus Christ, and hast hitherto graciously protected them and brought them to the knowledge of everlasting

salvation, we beseech thee, mercifully to look upon them now for the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, to illuminate them with lively knowledge, to increase in them thy manifold gifts of grace, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of thy word, that in the end they may obtain everlasting life, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesu. Amen.

Beloved children, make now your confession of faith before the Lord and this christian congregation.

(Here the questions of the Würtembergian Confirmation Book, with the exception of questions 7. 20—28. 35—37. 41—43. 64—66. 69. 70, are put to the children assembled in front of the chancel and by them answered in turns, whereupon the following questions are put to and answered by all.)

Question: Do you profess this doctrine of the gospel not with your lips only but with your hearts, and promise to abide faithful to it all the days of your life?

Answer: We do, from our hearts.

Q. Do you renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh, so that you will not follow, nor be led by them?

A. We renounce them all.

Q. Do you promise anew, that you will unto the end be faithful to God the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, and obeying his will and word, to believe, to live, to suffer, and to die?

A. Yes, we do promise from our hearts, and may God help us by the grace and power of his holy Spirit.

(Here the children one after the other approach the chaneel and kneel down, when the Minister lays his right hand upon their heads, saying.)

May our heavenly Father renew and multiply in thee the gift of the Holy Spirit, to make thee firm in faith, strong in godliness, patient under sufferings, and joyful in the hope of everlasting life, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Or:

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ grant thee, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in thy heart by faith, that being rooted and grounded in love, thou mayest be filled with all the fulness of God. Amen.

Or:

May the God of all grace who hath called thee unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, make thee perfect, establish, strengthen, settle thee, and by his power keep thee through faith unto salvation. Amen.

Or:

May the very God of peace sanctify thee wholly, and preserve thy whole spirit and soul and body blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Or:

May the God of peace make thee perfect in every good work to do his will; working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, who makest us both to will and to do those things that be good and acceptable unto thy divine Majesty; we make our humble supplications unto thee for these children, that thou wouldest keep them steadfast in the faith and in the obedience of thy holy gospel, as lively members of Christ, and strengthen them by thy Spirit that no false doctrine, nor any carnal lust, may lead them away from the truth which they have confessed this day. Vouchsafe unto them grace to grow up in all things into Christ, which is the head, in all wisdom and righteousness and true holiness, till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ. Grant that they may more and more fully know thee, and thy well beloved Son our Lord, and the holy Spirit,

the only true God, and more and more manfully, by word and deed, confess thy name before the world, and more and more fruitfully glorify thy grace in the church through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Go in peace; ye are the blessed of the Lord which has made heaven and earth. Amen.

Or

Lord God our heavenly Father who, according to thy unsearchable wisdom and righteousness, hidest the mysteries of thy kingdom from the wise and prudent, and revealest them unto babes; We all yield thee hearty thanks for thy great goodness through which these our children have attained unto the knowledge of the truth, so that they both believe with their hearts and confess with their mouths thy son Jesus Christ and his gospel. We humbly beseech thee, that thou wouldest farther enlighten and strengthen their hearts and minds, that being endowed with lively faith, godliness, constancy and discernment of spiritual things, they may grow daily in all things pertaining to salvation, bring forth the true fruits of faith and love to the praise of thy holy name, and remain steadfast until that day against which is laid up the crown of righteousness for all who have fought the good fight, through Jesus Christ, thy Son, our Lord, who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen.

III. The order of the Administration of the Lord's Supper or Holy Communion.

On the Sunday immediately preceding the celebration of the Holy Communion the Minister shall give warning to the congregation and read the following exhortation after the usual prayers are ended.

Dearly beloved in the Lord, on Sunday next I purpose through God's assistance to administer in this church the Holy Communion, to which I invite all such as are religiously and devoutly disposed, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Which holy sacrament being so divine and comfortable a thing to them who receive it worthily, and so dangerous to them that will presume to receive it unworthily; my duty is to exhort you in the mean season to consider the dignity of that holy mystery and the great peril of the unworthy receiving thereof, and so to search and examine your own consciences, that ye may come holy and clean to such a heavenly feast in the marriage garment required by God in Holy Scripture, and be received as worthy partakers of that holy table. The way and means thereto is; first, to examine

your lives and conversations by the rule of God's commandments; and whereinsoever ye shall perceive yourselves to have offended either by will, word or deed, there to bewail your own sinfulness, and to confess yourselves to Almighty God, with full purpose of amendment of life. And if ye shall perceive your offences to be such as are not only against God, but also against your neighbours; then ye shall reconcile yourselves unto them, being ready to make restitution and satisfaction, according to the uttermost of your powers, for all injuries and wrongs done by you to any other; and being likewise ready to forgive others that have offended you, as ye would have forgiveness of your offences at God's hand: for otherwise the receiving of the Holy Communion doth nothing else but increase your damnation.

May the Lord quicken you all, that ye may forsake whatsoever may hinder you from approaching his table with penitent and believing hearts. May our dear Savior have mercy upon every one of you according to the condition of his soul, that all may be so fulfilled with his grace as that none may fail, but all be delivered from the evil one and attain to the communion of the Lord both in this world and in the world to come, where his people will be blessed for evermore. Amen.

When the Lord's Supper is celebrated, a preparatory service shall be held on the previous day, generally in the evening, when a sermon is preached and

public confession of sins is made by the congregation. This confession of sins is made at the end of the service, the Minister standing in front of the Communion table.

I. Confession of sins.

Dearly beloved in the Lord, ye that mind to come to the Holy Communion of the Body and Blood of our Savior Christ, must consider how St. Paul exhorteth all persons diligently to try and examine themselves, before they presume to eat of that bread and to drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself not discerning the Lord's body. Let us therefore judge ourselves that we may not be judged. If we say, that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth. That which is born of the flesh is flesh. There is no difference; for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. But the Lord is he, which searcheth the reins and hearts; and all things are naked and open unto his eyes. He is not a God, that has pleasure in wickedness neither shall evil dwell with him. If we serve sin, live without repentance and harden our hearts, we treasure up unto ourselves wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, for he will render to every man according to his deeds; and with him there is no respect of persons. Repent ye

therefore, and be reconciled, that your sins may be blotted out. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts. Acknowledge your misdeeds; repent of your guilt. Take heed, Brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief. To day, if ye will hear the voice of the Lord, harden not your hearts. Consider the things which belong unto your peace, and hasten to save your souls.

Thus earnestly the word of God reminds us of our unworthiness, thus solemnly it calls us to repentence; but as freely and fully does it testify and proclaim unto us the unsearchable riches of divine mercy. As I live, saith the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked should turn from his way and live. Like as a father pitith his children, so the Lord pitith them, that fear him. Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner, that repenteth. God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. Be ye reconciled to God, for he has made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Having heard these exhortations and promises of the word of truth, let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins, and seek after grace, saying,

We poor miserable sinners acknowledge and bewail before God our heavenly Father our manifold sins and wickedness, which we have from time to time committed against his holy commandments by thought, word and deed, from unbelief, ingratitude, unfaithfulness, and want of brotherly love, which have marred all our life, provoking against us most justly God's wrath and indignation, in this world and in the world to come. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings, the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. We have none other comfort or trust, than the grace of God which aboundeth above our guilt, and the precious merits of our Lord Jesus Christ. Longing after this grace we say: Father, we have sinned against heaven and in thy sight, and are no more worthy to be called thy sons; but we come at this time of grace to ask of thee pardon and peace, new confidence toward thee, and strength to lead a new and righteous life through thy good and holy Spirit. Amen.

All ye that have truly acknowledged and confessed your sins and called upon God in true faith, beseeching him from the depth of your hearts to grant unto you grace and forgiveness, ought to be of good cheer and firmly to believe, that God Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is gracious and merciful toward you to pardon all your sins for the sake of his beloved son, Jesus Christ who has suffered and died for them. For

in the name of the same our Lord Jesus Christ, and by the power of the word spoken by him, saying: Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them, and whosoever sins ye retain, they are retained; according to the authority committed to me, a called minister of the church, I absolve such as are penitent and believe from all their sins, and declare unto them, that their pardon is as sure, abundant, and absolute as the merits of the passion and death of Jesus Christ, and as the testimony of the gospel which he has commanded to be preached in all the world. Receive ye this comfortable assurance now given to you in the name of Jesus Christ, to your consolation, resting your consciences upon it and firmly believing, that your sins are assuredly forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. But be it known unto all such as are impenitent and unbelieving, that their sins are retained, and that God will give unto them righteous and certain punishment both in this life and in that which is to come, unless they turn and repent. Which declaration I make unto them likewise in the name and by the command of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, praying them in Christ's stead to repent, to believe in the gospel and be reconciled to God.

(A form to be used in private absolution with laying on of hands.)

(He who came into the world, not to condemn the

world, but that the world through him might be saved, he who called unto himself all such as labored and were heavy laden, and promised to give them rest, even the Lord Jesus Christ says unto thee: Son (daughter), be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee.)

Let us pray:

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there (by this one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world, and who has caused the forgiveness of sins to be proclaimed unto us by the ministry of reconciliation—We beseech thee, merciful Father, grant that we may continue a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again. We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

Or:

Merciful God and Father, we praise and magnify thee, that in thy infinite mercy thou hast had compassion on us, and hast forgiven all our sins for the sake of thy beloved son Jesus Christ. O faithful God, keep us in thy grace and strengthen us that henceforth we may be enabled heartily to hate and forsake sin, manfully to withstand through faith all the temptations of Satan, and to serve thee through the Spirit in righteousness and true holiness. Teach us to do such things as are pleasing in thy sight, and let thy loving Spirit lead us forth into the land of righteousness. Amen.

The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

2. The ministration of the Lord's Supper.

The minister approaches the communion table upon which bread and wine have been placed in sufficient quantity in decent vessels, and proper order, the bread divided into such portions as may be easily broken at the time of distribution. Standing before the table, the congregation sitting before him he shall say:

Dearly beloved in the Lord, Jesus Christ; since we are minded to come to the holy communion of our Savior Christ, in which he truly gives unto us his body and blood, as food and drink of everlasting life, for the strengthening of our faith, we must consider and examine ourselves whether we have received and learned

the mystery of the Lord's table, lest we become guilty of the body and blood of Christ our Savior. Now the doctrine of the mystery is this: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has for our sakes come in the flesh, made atonement by his death, for all our sins, reconciled us unto our heavenly Father, and thus become our meat and drink of everlasting life. This we remember in the holy Supper, and of this we testify by offering thanks for and partaking of the bread and wine of the Lord's table.

Above all things, every partaker of the Lord's Supper shall know assuredly, that his sins are forgiven for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ's body yielded up, and of his bloodshed on the cross, and that Christ has thus obtained everlasting life for all believers. This blessed truth we ought now here with devout earnestness and true faith to meditate on and to take to heart, and at all times to acknowledge with unchanging gratitude the unspeakable love of God, by which he has given unto us his only begotten Son, and with an eternal redemption delivered us from the power of sin, Satan, death and hell. Consider therefore, that the good shepherd has laid down his life for the sheep; that he who was without guile, has died for sinners, the head for his members, the bridegroom and husband for his bride the church; and that in obedience to the Father's will and in infinite love to us

poor mortals, the Highpriest has offered himself as a whole burnt-sacrifice, and thus fully established and sealed unto us the covenant of God's grace.

And for as much as our Lord Jesus Christ has promised, that whatsoever we ask of the heavenly Father in his name, we shall receive, we ought to pray that he may give us grace rightly and fully to comprehend his great love towards us, that we may be strengthened in the true faith, and believe, nothing doubting, that our Lord and Savior has once offered his body and blood for our sins and thereby obtained eternal redemption for us. Likewise we ought to pray, that we may be taught to live in true love and charity with each other and with all men, even with our enemies, that we may be enabled truly to crucify the flesh with its affections and lusts, so as to lead a new life well pleasing to God, and lastly, that we may be endowed with constancy and patience to bear all our trials, tribulations and afflictions, being certain and fully assured, that if we suffer with our Lord and Captain, we shall also be glorified together with him, and be made partakers of his heavenly kingdom. Such faith, hope, love, patience, obedience and holiness of life may God increase in us all, to the intent that we may be found true children of the heavenly father, who worship him in spirit and in truth.

Finally, because St. Paul so faithfully exhorts us, saying: whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord, let every one examine himself and see, whether he have so taken to heart the death of Christ, which bringeth salvation to the sinner, as confidently to believe, that all his sins are pardoned by the death of Christ and to have a mind, for the Lord's sake to love all men, and to do unto them whatsoever he would that men should do to him, and to desire henceforth to die unto sin by the help of divine Grace and of the Spirit of God, and to walk in newness of life unto all pleasing, shewing forth those virtues of which our Lord Christ has given us an example by his holy life and death.

On the other hand, such as will not lay to heart nor obey these words, but are minded to continue living in open sin and vice, fearing neither God nor man, shall not approach the table of the Lord here spread for the church of God, which is the body of our Lord.

Let us pray:

Lord God, our heavenly Father, we confess before thee, that we have, alas, sinned much against thee, and until this transgressed thy holy commandments in thought, word and deed and by all manner of uncharitable conduct. More perfectly than we can, thou who triest the hearts

and reins, seest our secret faults and knowest our forlorn estate. We entreat thy pardon and mercy through thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, who is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but for the sins of the whole world. Yea, we yield unto thee thanks, that he has abolished our sins by his blood-shedding, and now calleth us to his blessed Supper. Give unto us thy holy Spirit that by a right use of this holy ordinance, we may in true faith receive his holy body broken for us, and his holy blood shed for our sins, even Jesus Christ himself who is to us the bread and water of eternal life, and that as members incorporate in the mystical body of Christ, being comforted and strengthened by this heavenly food, we may bring forth the fruits of faith in all godliness, with true thankfulness and obedience toward God, and fervent love towards our neighbors. Grant this, O God, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

Or:

Beloved in the Lord, ye that mind to come to the holy communion of the body and blood of our Savior Christ, must consider how St. Paul exhorteth all men diligently to try and examine themselves, before they presume to eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For the benefit and comfort is great, if with a true penitent and contrite heart, acknowledging and confessing our

sins, and dreading the wrath of God and death, we hunger and thirst after righteousness. But if we examine ourselves and search our hearts, what do we all find, but the abomination of sin and eternal death which we have deserved by sin? for the wages of sin, as St. Paul saith, is death, wherefrom we can in no wise escape. Therefore our Lord Jesus Christ having compassion on us, was made man for our sins, that he might fulfil the law and the whole will of God in our stead, and take upon himself and suffer death and all the guilt of our sins for us and for the salvation of our souls. And to the intent that we might firmly believe this, and live rejoicing in his will, he in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread, and, when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat, this is my body, which is given for you, that is to say: my incarnation, my passion, my death, all is yours, all is done for you and for your benefit; and for a sure token and evidence thereof, and that you abide and live in me and I in you, I give you my body to eat. Likewise after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is the cup of the New Testament in my blood which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins, that is to say: because I have had compassion on you, and have taken your sins upon me and now offer myself a sacrifice for sin unto death; I

shed my blood to obtain for you grace and pardon, thereby establishing a new testament, in which sin is forgiven and remembered no more for ever, and for a sure token and evidence thereof, and for the strengthening and growth of my life in you, I give you my blood to drink. Wherefore, whosoever eats of this bread and drinks of this cup, firmly believing in these words of Christ, which he has now heard, and receiving this sacrament for a memorial and strengthening of his faith, will abide in Christ, and Christ in him, and live for ever.

Therefore, when we celebrate this holy Supper, we must remember Christ and proclaim his death, even that he died for our sins, and rose again for our justification, and give thanks and praises to him for ever. Also every one of us must take his cross upon himself and follow Christ, and according to his commandment, we must love each other as he has loved us, and forgive each other, as he has forgiven us. For we are all one bread and one body, because we all partake of one bread, and drink of one cup. In as much as one wine is made of many berries of grape, and one bread of many grains of wheat, likewise we all, who are incorporate through faith in the mystical body of Christ, ought to be one in brotherly love for the sake of Christ our dear Savior who has first loved us with so great a love, and thus, as it were, become one wine and one bread, and show to each

other this love not in empty words, but by word and deed, as Saint John teaches us, proving the sincerity and truth of it, God Almighty and merciful, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, helping us through his Holy Spirit. Amen.

L e t u s p r a y :

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Sanctify our souls and bodies and grant that we may receive the blessed Communion of thy dear Son in his Holy Supper with longing faith and hearty gratitude to comfort us by a fresh assurance of thy eternal goodness and love towards us, and to give new strength to our spiritual life to the end that we may henceforth live unto thee and

serve thee with greater diligence and holy fear, to the praise of thy divine name and the benefit of thy people through the same our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Beloved in the Lord, hear in faith the words whereby the Lord Jesus Christ has instituted his Holy Supper.

The Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you; this do in remembrance of me.

After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood; this do ye, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

(Here it is convenient, that the Minister should lift up the patina and the cup, when he reads the words "took bread" and "took the cup")

Then shall the Minister first receive the Communion in both kinds himself, and then proceed to deliver the same to other Ministers present, and after that two or more of the congregation shall approach the Communion table and, if convenient, kneel down to receive the Sacrament, while the following sentences are addressed to one or more of the communicants according, as their number may be smaller or larger.

Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. And

Drink ye all of this; for this is my blood, of the New Testament which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sin. Do this as oft as ye drink it in remembrance of me.

Or:

Take and eat, this is the body of Jesus Christ, given for your sins. This do in remembrance of him. And

Take and drink; this is the blood of Jesus Christ, shed for your sins. This do in remembrance of him.

Or:

The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? And

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ?

After the Communion the following prayer shall be said:

Now let us give hearty thanks to our dear Savior for his blessed Supper, and say:

We thank thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, for that thou hast quickened us by these salutary gifts of thy body and blood; and we beseech thee by thy mercies that thou wouldest bless them to the strengthening of our faith in thee, and to the kindling of a fervent love towards all men and toward thee, who livest and reignest with God the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God world without end. Amen.

Or:

Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy

life from destruction, who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies. We bless thee, O Lord Jesu Christ, who hast so graciously had compassion on us, redeemed us from sin and death, and called us to become children by adoption of thy heavenly Father and ours. We yield thee hearty thanks, that thou hast instituted in thy holy Supper a memorial of thy love, and again quickened our faith and hope through this divine ordinance of grace. Grant that we may constantly abide in thy grace, and confess thy name not with our lips only but in our lives, walking before thee in holiness and righteousness, until at the last with the company of the just made perfect, we may behold thee in thy heavenly glory. Amen.

IV. The form of Solemnization of Matrimony.

The banns of all that are to be married together, must be published in the church three several Sundays during the time of morning service, or of evening service, the Minister saying after the accustomed manner,

I publish the banns of marriage between M of — and N of —. These christian persons are hereby commended to the prayers of the congregation. May they receive grace rightly to enter into the state of holy Matrimony, to live in it as becometh Christians, and finally to obtain everlasting salvation. This is the first (second or third) time of asking. If any of you know cause, or just impediment, why these two persons should not be

joined together in holy matrimony, ye are to declare it, in time, or afterwards to abstain from protesting against the marriage. May God who has himself ordained the state of matrimony, give to these betrothed persons his grace and blessing upon what they have purposed in their hearts, for Christ's sake. Amen.

At the day and time appointed for the Solemnization of Matrimony the persons to be married shall come into the body of the church with their friends and neighbours, and there standing together, the Man on the right hand, and the Woman on the left hand, the Minister shall say:

Dearly beloved, the betrothed persons here present desire to be united in holy matrimony, in the sight of God and in the face of this congregation, and to receive the blessing of the word of God. Now in order that they may begin their married life rightly instructed from the word of God, let us hear in the first place, how holy matrimony has been instituted by God.

And the Lord God said, It is not good, that man should be alone; I will make him a help meet for him. And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof: and the rib which the Lord God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. And Adam said, this is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called woman, because she was taken out of man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave

unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. I. Mos. 5. 2, 18. 21—24.

Secondly, let us hear from the Gospel, how husband and wife are joined and by what obligations they are bound together. The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? And he answered them, and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh. Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together let not man put asunder. They say unto him, Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorce, and to put her away? He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away, doth commit adultery. Matth. 19, 3—9

Thirdly, let us hear the commandment of God, how husband and wife ought to live together. Saint Paul writes Ephes. 5, 25—29: Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself

for it, that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle or any such thing: but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives, as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife, loveth himself. For no man ever yet hated his own flesh, but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church. And Ephes. 5, 22—24 he writes, Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church and he is the savior of the body. Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

Fourthly, let us hear the blessing wherewith God has blessed the married estate. It is written: So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it. 1 Mos. 1, 27. 28. Solomon also says: whoso findeth a wife, findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord. Prov. 18, 22.

Fifthly, let us hear also of the cross which God has put upon the married estate. 1 Mos. 3, 16—19 it is thus written: Unto the woman he said, I will greatly

multiply thy sorrow and thy conception: in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life: thorns and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground, for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return.

Sixthly, together with the cross ye ought also to remember the comfort and support under the cross in store for you. For our Lord Jesus Christ has taken upon himself and atoned for sin, for the which cause the cross is laid upon man, and has blessed and sacrificed every cross to them that believe in him, by his bearing the cross for us; wherefore the Psalmist says concerning man: Blessed is every man, that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labor of thine hands: happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee. Ps. 128, 1. 2. And Saint Paul says concerning woman: The woman being deceived, was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they

continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.
1 Tim. 2, 14. 15.

Now, beloved in the Lord, having heard the doctrine of the word of God concerning the condition and the duties of matrimony, if ye are minded to enter upon it in faith and in the fear of God, draw near to have your covenant confirmed and sealed in the name of the Lord.

Question. N. Wilt thou take this N. here present for thy wedded wife, and not forsake her in sickness and in health, in wealth and in adversity, so long as ye both shall live?

Answer. I will

Question. N. Wilt thou take this N. here present for thy wedded husband, and not forsake him in sickness and in health, in wealth and in adversity, so long as ye both shall live?

Answer. I will.

Or:

Question. N. Wilt thou take this N. here present for thy wedded wife, to have and hold from this day forward for better for worse, for richer for poorer; in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death ye do part. If this be thy earnest will and solemn purpose, affirm it before God and these witnesses.

Answer. I will.

Question. N. Wilt thou take this N. here present for

thy wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish till death ye do part! If this be your earnest will and solemn purpose, affirm it before God and these witnesses.

Answer. I will.

Then the Minister shall say: Join your right hands; whereupon he shall lay his right hand upon the hands of the betrothed persons and say:

For as much as you have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and thereto have given and pledged your troth either to other, and have promised to love and cherish one another, I as an ordained minister of the Christian Church, confirm your union and declare it indissoluble according to the word of God, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Those whom God has joined together let no man put asunder. Amen.

Here the newly married couple shall kneel down and the Minister shall say:

Lord God heavenly Father, who hast created man male and female, and hast instituted the married estate, that they may be kept from carnal lusts, and hast also commanded a blessing by vouchsafing fruits of the womb, and hast foreshadowed by matrimony the holy mystery of the union between thy dear Son Jesus Christ and his holy Church, we beseech thee of thy infinite mercy to

grant, that this thy work, institution and blessing may not be perverted nor hindered, but mercifully accomplished in these thy servants now married. Pour out upon them the riches of thy grace, that they may continue in the state whereinto they have now entered, fearing and serving thee, and giving a good example to their neighbours, unto thy praise and glory, through thy beloved Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Or:

Lord our God, our help and comfort in all generations, mercifully look down upon these thy servants who have now plighted their troth and promised to love and cherish each other according to thy holy ordinance and institution. Bless their going out and their coming in, and so guide them by thy holy Spirit, that thy good and acceptable will may be done by them in all things. Grant that their souls may be united by Christ Jesus into one mind through that charity which is the bond of perfectness. Awaken them by thy Spirit, that they may let the word of Christ dwell in them richly, and that they may continue in prayer and watch in the same with thanksgiving, in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving making their requests known unto thee. Defend them from the evil spirit of discord and contention, and grant unto them wisdom from above and gentleness, that they may learn patiently to bear

with each other's infirmities. Prosper the work of their hands, and bless them in the faithful pursuit of their calling, that their necessities may be supplied unto them through thy goodness. Grant that also their cross and trials may by repentance, faith and patience be turned into abiding blessings. Make their house and their hearts thy habitation, and give grace unto them, that they may strive to obtain together the heavenly inheritance. And when they have finished their course, and kept the faith unto the end, do thou finally call them from their pilgrimage into thy heavenly city and into thy presence, where there are pleasures for ever more, for Jesus Christ his sake. Amen.

Our Father which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace. Amen.

V. The Order for The Burial of the Dead.

When the corpse has been placed near the grave, the Minister shall say:

To our God, who only hath immortality, be all glory,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, world without end.
Amen.

Or:

Glory be to our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth, and
was dead, and behold, is alive for ever more. Amen.

Whereupon shall be read the ninetieth Psalm:

1. Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.
2. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.
3. Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return ye children of men.
4. For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday, when it is past, and as a watch in the night.
5. Thou carriest them away as with a flood, they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.
6. In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down and withereth.
7. For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.

8. Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

9. For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

10. The days of our years are threescore and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years; yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

11. Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.

12. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

13. Return, O Lord, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants.

14. O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

15. Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.

16. Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.

17. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish then the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

After which he shall read in the fifteenth Chapter of the first Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians from the 20th to the 58th verse.

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection from the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order; Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father, when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death. For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith, All things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him. And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him, that put all things under him, that God may be all in all. Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead? And why stand we in jeopardy every hour? I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me if the dead rise not? Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die. Be not de-

ceived: evil communications corrupt good manners. Awake to righteousness and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame. But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: but God giveth it a body, as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body. All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written: the first man, Adam, was made a living soul, the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is

natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthly: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthly, such are they also, which are earthly: and as is the heavenly, such are they also, that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is thy sting? O grave where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your work is not in vain in the Lord. I Cor. 15, 20—58.

Or he shall read the following exhortation :

For as much as it hath pleased the Almighty and only wise God to call our brother (sister) here departed, out of this world, we now commit his (her) body to the earth, dust to dust. For thus saith God in his word: dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return. By one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. All flesh, therefore, perisheth, and there is no respect of persons. Let us then, such as are here present, confess our sins, humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, before whom we are as dust, and earnestly consider our frail estate and how quickly our days pass away. Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up, and is cut down like a flower; he flieth as it were a shadow, and never continueth in one stay. Behold, Lord, thou hast made our days, as it were, a span long; our age is even as nothing in respect of thee: and verily every man living is altogether vanity.

But praised be our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who has loved us and given us an eternal consolation and a glorious hope through grace. God according to his abundant mercy has begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in

Christ shall all be made alive, who by his death has atoned for our sins, and by his resurrection brought life and immortality to light. He is the first born from the dead and saith: I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die. Therefore both in life and in death we put our trust in him. For through him death has been swallowed up in victory, and through faith in him the people of God are made partakers of the glorious promise, that this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. And as we have borne the image of the earthly, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly; that is, the image of our Lord Jesus Christ, who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things to himself.

After this exhortation or after the reading of the above Scriptures, the Minister shall say:

We stand mourning at this grave, yet we mourn not as those that have no hope, but lift up our heads knowing that our Redeemer liveth, and that such as are fallen asleep in the Lord, are in God's hand and no torment shall touch them. For blessed are the dead which die

in the Lord from henceforth. Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them. And every man, that hath this hope in him, purifieth himself even as he is pure, that he may become partaker in the resurrection of the just. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Wherefore, beloved, let us flee the lusts of this perishing world, and seek the one thing needful, even that good part, which shall not be taken away from us. Let us fight the good fight of faith, and lay hold on eternal life, whereto we are also called. Let us be like unto servants waiting for the coming of their Lord, and let us purify our souls in obeying the truth. Let us take to heart the word of our Lord, saying: Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

[Or, instead of this exhortation, the Minister may expound one of the passages of holy writ quoted above.]

Let us pray

Lord Jesus Christ, we praise thee for that thou hast conquered death, and brought to light life and immortality through the Gospel. We trust in thee; we worship thee, who art the resurrection and the life. In thy fellowship alone we seek life and happiness. Do thou so strengthen the bond of love which bindeth us to thee,

that neither death nor any other power may be able to separate us from thee. Grant, that we may live in thee altogether, so that in due time we may also die in thee. Grant that in the hour of death we may enjoy the blessed fruits of thy death with consolations of that peace which passeth understanding. Succour us, O great conqueror, in our last agony, that in thy strength we may overcome all our enemies, and obtain entrance into thy everlasting kingdom. And when we are no more able to lift up our tongue in prayer, let thy Spirit make intercession for us with groanings that cannot be uttered. Let thy heavenly light and divine power safely lead us through the dark valley of death to that rest which remaineth for thy people. Even so, O Lord, when darkness gathers around us, when our hearts are full of anguish, then comfort us abundantly with the peace of thy cross, the light of thy life, the power of thy Spirit and the hope of the incorruptible inheritance of thy kingdom. Amen.

Or:

Almighty and everlasting God, our heavenly Father, thy years endure for all generations; but we pass away. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away. Lord, make us to know our end

and the measure of our days, what it is, that we may know how frail we are, and preparing for death by a godly and penitent life, may not be terrified by the approach of death, but await our departure in peace and faith. Lord Jesu Christ, when our last day and hour come, mercifully grant that out of this world we may enter into thy rest. Meanwhile keep us in the true faith and in godliness of life, until we are delivered from the misery of this world. Thou art the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in thee, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in thee, shall never die. Grant, that when at the close of this earthly life we fall asleep, we may joyfully rise into life and enter into thy heavenly joy, for thy love's sake. Amen.

Or:

Almighty and everliving God, who by the death of thy dear Son hast abolished sin and death, and by his resurrection hast re-established righteousness and everlasting life, that, we being delivered from the power of the devil, our mortal bodies also might be raised from the dead by the power of his resurrection; mercifully grant us grace steadfastly and heartily to believe in him, and finally together with all saints to attain to a joyful resurrection, for thy only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ his sake. Amen.

Or:

Lord God, who livest for ever, who turnest man to destruction and sayest: come again, ye children of men. Truly man at his best is but like a flower of the field. He vanisheth like a shadow after he has wearied himself in manifold disquiet and vexation. But this is the true life, that thou O God, who art the supreme Good and eternal life, dwellest in the hearts of believers by Jesus Christ the Son of thy love, through the gracious illumination of the Holy Spirit and the new birth, and that we being born again and engrafted in the tree of spiritual life, even Jesus Christ, grow into his likeness, and being nourished by his virtue, bring forth the first-fruits of the Spirit, even the works of his kingdom, until that which is perfect shall appear on the day when he will come in his glory.

Our faithful Creator and God, we beseech thee, that thou wouldest teach us to number our days and earnestly to consider, that it is appointed unto men, once to die, and after this the judgment. Merciful Lord, grant that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom, and laying aside every weight of present vanity, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, wait for the coming of the bridegroom like unto the wise virgins, filling betimes the lamps of our renewed hearts with the oil of the Holy Ghost, of new heavenly light, of spiritual life, and of the treasure

of the kingdom of God, so that there may always burn in them the beautiful light of loving faith and of fervent and godly charity, which is able to disperse the terrors and darkness of sin, death and hell, and to show unto us, to our sweet consolation, our dearest treasure and gain in life and death, even Jesus Christ, the heavenly bridegroom, our atonement, our resurrection and our life. Amen.

After one of the above prayers has been offered, the corpse shall be lowered into the grave, when the Minister shall say:

Dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return. Thy body the Lord Jesus will raise at the last day, and thy spirit we commend to the grace and mercy of God, in the name and for the sake of his dear Son, our only Savior and Mediator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A prayer to be said, instead of one of the above,
when the burial is that of a Child.

Our dear heavenly Father, in thy goodness and mercy thou hast been pleased thus early to remove this child from the miseries of this life and the offences of this wicked world and to translate it thither where is Jesus Christ, thy beloved Son. Grant that the departure of this child may be a salutary monition to the hearts of its parents to seek those things which are above. Vouchsafe grace to all parents, that they may duly consider how gracious gifts of thy grace their children are unto them, and how solemn an account they will have to render of them unto thee. In thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ thou hast called our children also to the kingdom of heaven, through holy baptism thou receivest them into the covenant of grace, and through adoption thou appointest them heirs of thy heavenly riches. Wherefore we beseech thee, to grant unto us grace, that in no wise we may neglect them, but watch over their bodily and spiritual welfare with unwearyed diligence, and so nurture them in thy fear and love, that, if earlier or later thou demand them of our hands, our hearts may not condemn us. O Lord, teach all parents by thy Spirit, early to mind those things which pertain to their own and their children's everlasting peace. Bring us all into that true and heavenly

country, and grant unto us, and unto our children entrance into that city which has foundations, whose maker and builder thou art, O God, there to praise and glorify thee, world without end. Amen.

VI. The form and manner of Ordering of Catechists and Ministers.

I. The Ordering of Catechists.

When the day appointed is come, after Prayer is ended, there shall be a Sermon or exhortation on a suitable text of holy writ, declaring the duty and office of such as come to be admitted Catechists. Whereupon the Minister standing in the chancel, the Candidates for the office of Catechist standing in order before him, shall say:

The Lord be with you. Let us pray: Almighty and gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath earnestly commanded us, that we should pray thee to send laborers into thy harvest, we beseech thy infinite mercy, that thou wouldest send unto us good and honest teachers and ministers of thy holy word, and put thy wholesome word into their hearts and mouths, that they may faithfully fulfil thy commandment preaching and doing nothing contrary to thy holy word, so that we may be admonished, taught, fed, comforted and strengthened by thy heavenly and blessed word to do that which is pleasing in thy sight and healthful for our own souls through thy dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ

who with thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth,
ever one God, blessed for ever more. Amen.

Hear now what the Holy Spirit saith of the gifts and offices in the church:

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same spirit.
And there are differences of administration, but the same
Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is
the same God who worketh all in all. But the mani-
festation of the spirit is given to every man to profit
withal. I. Cor. 12, 4.

And he gave some, Apostles; and some, Prophets;
and some, Evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;
for the perfecting of the Saints, for the work of the mi-
nistry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Ephes.
4, 11. 12.

We read likewise, that the Lord Jesus Christ first
chose twelve disciples, and then seventy, and sent them
out to preach, saying: the kingdom of God has come
nigh. In those days our Lord chose the weak, and the
foolish, the base and the despised in the sight of the
world, to send them into his harvest. And in these our
days—blessed be his holy Name, he acts in the same
manner, giving us grace now to set apart some laborers
for the service of his Gospel.

Let us now hear the commandment given by the
word of God to ministers in the congregations: Deacons
must be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much

wine, not greedy of filthy lucre, holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless. Even so must their wives be grave, not slanderous, sober, faithful in all things. Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have used the office of a deacon well, purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Then shall the Minister address the Catechist-Candidates and say:

Beloved in the Lord, ye are called to become helpers of the pastors of the flock of Christ, and to use the office of evangelists proclaiming the blessed tidings of Salvation to the Heathens. You must duly consider the greatness and holiness of the duty and the difficulties of the office which you undertake, but also the precious and glorious reward of the same. You are to serve the Church, which God has purchased to himself with his own blood, and to preach the Gospel to every creature. Of your office the Apostle Paul saith: If the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not steadfastly behold the face of Moses, for the glory of his countenance, which glory was to be done away, how shall not the ministration of the Spirit be rather glorious? For if the ministration of

condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory. For even that which was made glorious, had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth. For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious. 2 Cor. 6, 7—11. But it is written also concerning you, that if ye be examples of the flock, when the chief shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory, that fadeth not away. 1 Petr. 5, 3. 4.

And now, beloved in the Lord, make answer to these questions: Are you minded to suffer hardship as faithful soldiers of Jesus Christ, in the service to which you are called?

Answer: Such is our mind.

Question: Will you hold fast the form of sound words which you have heard of the faith and love of Christ Jesus, and teach the christian doctrine as ye have learned it from holy writ, by the teaching of our Evangelical Church?

Answer: We will.

Question: Will you obey such as are set over you in the Lord, and submit, if need be, to reproof and chastisement, and further learn and search the holy Scriptures, that you may become more and more fruitful in the service of the church of Christ?

Answer: We will, God helping us through grace.

Whereupon the Minister shall say: In confirmation of this your purpose give me your right hand in the face of this congregation.

The Candidates now come severally before the chancel, giving the right hand to the Minister, and kneel down, when the Minister lays his right hand upon their heads and ordains them, saying to each:

Our blessed Lord give thee grace according to the riches of his glory, to use the office of a helper of our Evangelical church honestly and without offence, with all diligence and faithfulness, as thou hast to give account on that day before the judgment seat of our Lord Jesus Christ, the righteous judge, in the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. The Lord bless thee, that thou mayest bring much fruit. Amen.

After ordination this prayer is to be said:

Merciful God, our heavenly Father, thou hast commanded us by the mouth of thy dear Son, to pray thee, the Lord of the harvest, to send forth laborers into thy plenteous harvest. May it please thee richly to grant thy holy Spirit to these thy servants, and to us and all the ministers of thy holy word, that we with all the companies of thy Evangelists may remain faithful and constant against the devil, the world and the flesh, that thy name may be hallowed, thy kingdom advanced, and thy will done. We beseech thee, that thou wouldest mightily put down and abolish the pitiful abominations of idolatry, of Mohammed and the Pope, and all other errors of thy enemies, who blaspheme thy name, war

against thy kingdom, and oppose thy will. Graciously hear these our petitions through thy dear Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our Father which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; But deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Whereupon a hymn is sung, and the blessing pronounced.

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee. The Lord make his face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace. Amen.

2. The form of Ordaining Ministers.

The Minister charged with the ordination, after a sermon or exhortation, declaring the duty and office of such as come to be admitted Ministers or Pastors, shall stand in the chancel, accompanied by such other ministers as may be chosen witnesses of the Ordination, the Candidate for the Ministry standing before the Chancel, and shall say:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all. Amen.

Dearly beloved, The Lord according to his grace having prepared and called our Brother here present to be a Minister of his Church, we are here assembled in

order solemnly to set him apart for this office, agreeably to the usage of Christian Churches, by laying on of hands and prayer. Let us now entreat the blessing of God on this our work and pray with one accord:

Merciful God, our heavenly Father, we give thee hearty thanks, that thou hast hitherto mightily defended and graciously preserved thy holy Church founded on earth by thy only begotten Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Thy holy Spirit has not forsaken her, thou still raisest up for her pastors and teachers holding fast the sure word of thy truth, and shod with the preparation of the Gospel of peace. Continue to keep the Church, purchased with thy own blood, through thy divine Grace, sustain her with thy truth, defend her against all assaults of her enemies, and through the ministration of faithful teachers supply her richly with the knowledge of the word which is able to save our souls. Especially we entreat thee for our dear Brother, here present, who desires to serve thee and is waiting to receive the office of the holy Ministry. Vouchsafe unto him a rich measure of the gifts of thy holy Spirit: endue him with power from on high, and enable him to hold fast the sound words of the doctrine of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching which is according to godliness. Above all things grant, that his whole conversation be as becometh the Gospel whose minister he is. Work, O Lord,

by thy divine love in us and through us, and through our beloved Brother, that by his testimony many may be led into the way of life, established in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, and made meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the Saints in light. Amen.

Brother, beloved in the Lord, you know from the word of God, that if a man desire the office of a bishop or elder, he desireth a good work. For he is to be a steward of the mysteries of God, and an ambassador for Christ, sent to beseech men to be reconciled unto God. The Church which the Son of God hath purchased with his own blood, is entrusted to him, that he may feed and guide it, and establish it by the help of the holy Spirit in that knowledge of the Father and of the Son, wherein standeth eternal life. Wherefore you must earnestly consider the solemn duties of your calling and diligently weigh the burden, which your office lays upon you.

In the first place, you must preach no other doctrine but such as is founded on the pure and simple word of God, and is in accordance with the confession of our Evangelical Church, which is built on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner-stone. Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid in Christ Jesus. In this truth you must instruct old and young with diligence and faithfulness, avoiding all fond and strange doctrines.

Above all, you must hold fast the pillar of the truth of the Gospel, that we obtain forgiveness of sin and the righteousness of God, not by any work or merit of our own, but alone through grace, for Christ's sake, by faith. This is the mystery of faith, which alone can give comfort and peace to the troubled conscience, and render the hearts of men willing and able to bring forth fruits meet for repentance, and pleasing in the sight of God.

Moreover you are called to administer the holy sacraments according to the institution of our Lord Jesus Christ in such a manner, that the Church may be built up in our most holy faith, and that believers may through these gracious ministrations receive out of his fulness grace for grace.

Further, you have diligently to care for Christian Schools, to visit the poor, to be a messenger and witness of the grace of God to the sick and the afflicted, and faithfully to exhort and lovingly to comfort the dying. You have to maintain christian discipline in the church whose minister you are, according to the injunctions of Scripture and the rules of our Church. In public and private, in season and out of season, you shall exhort all men to the exercise of true godliness, to a holy and blameless walk in love and peace, and teach all members of the Church to obey and pray for the Queen and all authorities. You must especially be careful to be an ensam-

ple to the flock in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity; and also give diligent attendance to the reading and searching of the word of God, that your profiting may appear in all things. You must preach the Gospel both by word and deed, so that you may boldly exhort men, saying, Be ye followers of me, even as I am of Christ. In short, a minister of the word must be blameless, giving no offence in any thing, of good report even with them that are without, lest he fall into reproach and into the snare of the devil.

You know, brother beloved in the Lord, that of yourself you are not sufficient for these things. Christ himself saith: As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me; for without me ye can do nothing. Therefore I exhort and beseech you, to trust in the Almighty Grace of Christ, and to rejoice in his all-sufficient strength. He who has promised to be with his own alway, even unto the end of the world, will be at your right hand, and will prosper that for which he has sent you. Be, then, steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as you know, that your labor is not in vain in the Lord. Then in all the conflicts and trials of your ministry you will find his grace and peace your strength and comfort, and hear him say on that day: Well done, good and faithful ser-

vant, thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things. Enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.

I now demand of you in the presence of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in the face of this congregation:

Dost thou promise to keep these words and take upon thee the duties of the holy Ministry?

Wilt thou faithfully give to thy work and office all thy time and strength, and preach according to the word of God, Jesus Christ, and him crucified and risen from the dead, who is made unto us by God wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption?

Dost thou earnestly purpose in thy heart, by God's grace to live an ensample unto the flock in word and deed, in life and conversation?

If this be thy mind and purpose, declare it before the all-seeing God, and before Jesus Christ, the Judge of the quick and the dead.

Answer: This is my will and purpose, God helping me by the power and grace of his Spirit. Amen.

The person to be ordained then kneels before the chancel, when the Minister ordaining and, if present, two other Ministers lay their hands upon his head, the first saying:

I appoint and ordain thee a lawful minister of the Evangelical Church and commit unto thee the office of

the ministry instituted by Christ our Lord, in the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord endue thee with power from on high and make thee a blessing unto many. May He himself ordain thee to go and bring forth much fruit, and may thy fruit remain unto eternal life. Amen.

Words of blessing spoken by the witnesses of the Ordination:

The Lord be thy light and thy salvation. The Lord be the strength of thy life. Be of good courage, rest in the Lord, and wait patiently upon him. Amen.

The Lord Jesus Christ be with thee and with thy spirit. Amen.

Let us pray.

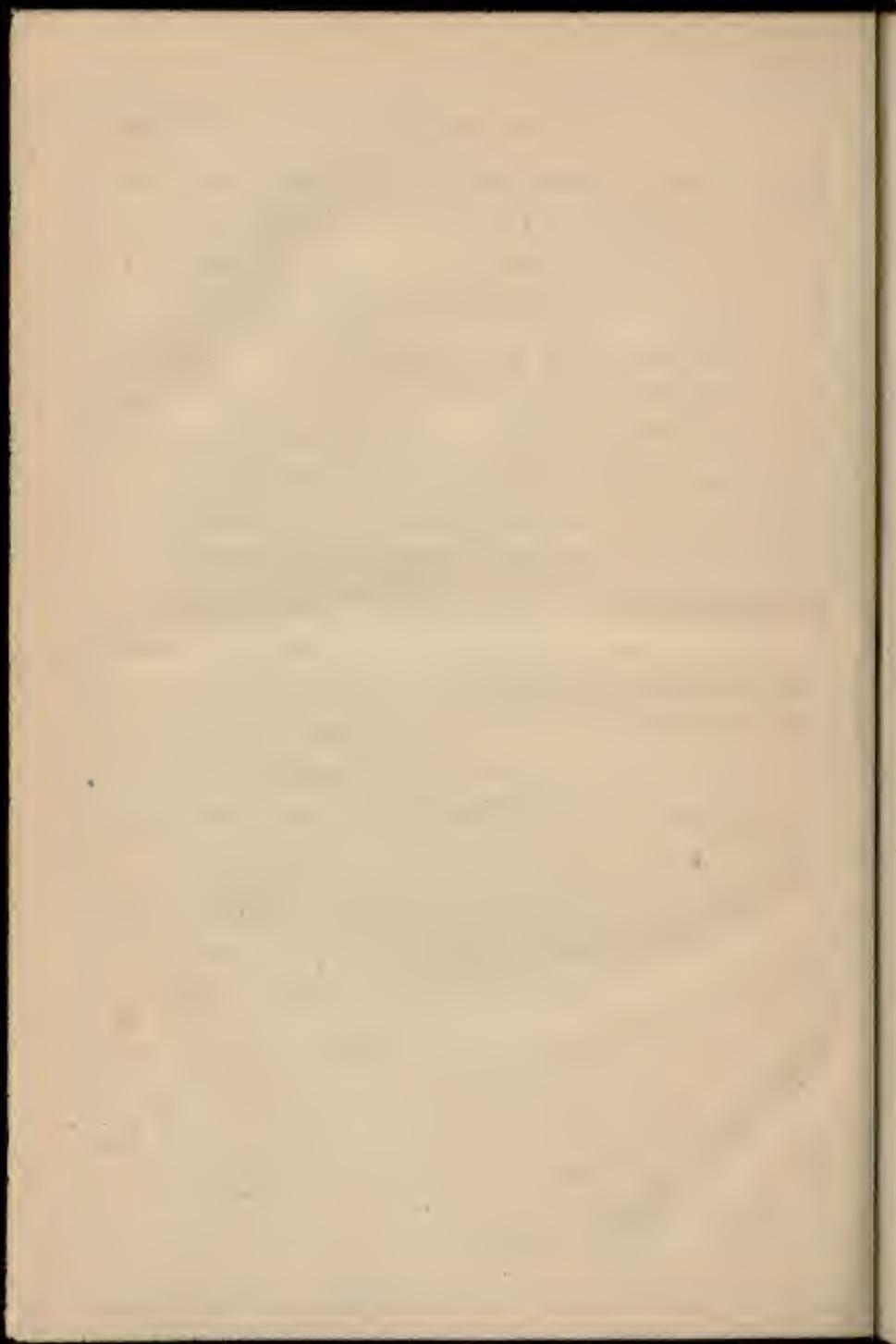
Merciful God, our heavenly Father, thou hast commanded us by the mouth of thy dear Son to pray unto thee, the Lord of the harvest, that thou wouldest send forth laborers into thy harvest. We therefore pray with childlike confidence, to give thy holy Spirit abundantly to thy servant here present. Make him faithful in the discharge of his holy office; grant unto him wisdom and power and love to seek that which is lost, to strengthen the weak, to convince the doubtful, to comfort the distressed, and to establish the faithful in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. Vouchsafe abundant blessings to his testimony, and grant that through his ministrations thy name may be hallowed, thy kingdom ad-

vanced, thy good and acceptable and perfect will fulfilled in all things. O prosper his work through the power of thy Spirit to the salvation of many souls, and to the honor and glory of thy holy name. Amen.

Our Father which art in heaven. Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Go then, and feed the flock of God, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being Lord over God's heritage, but being an ensample to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, thou shalt receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

The Lord bless thee and keep thee. The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace. Amen.



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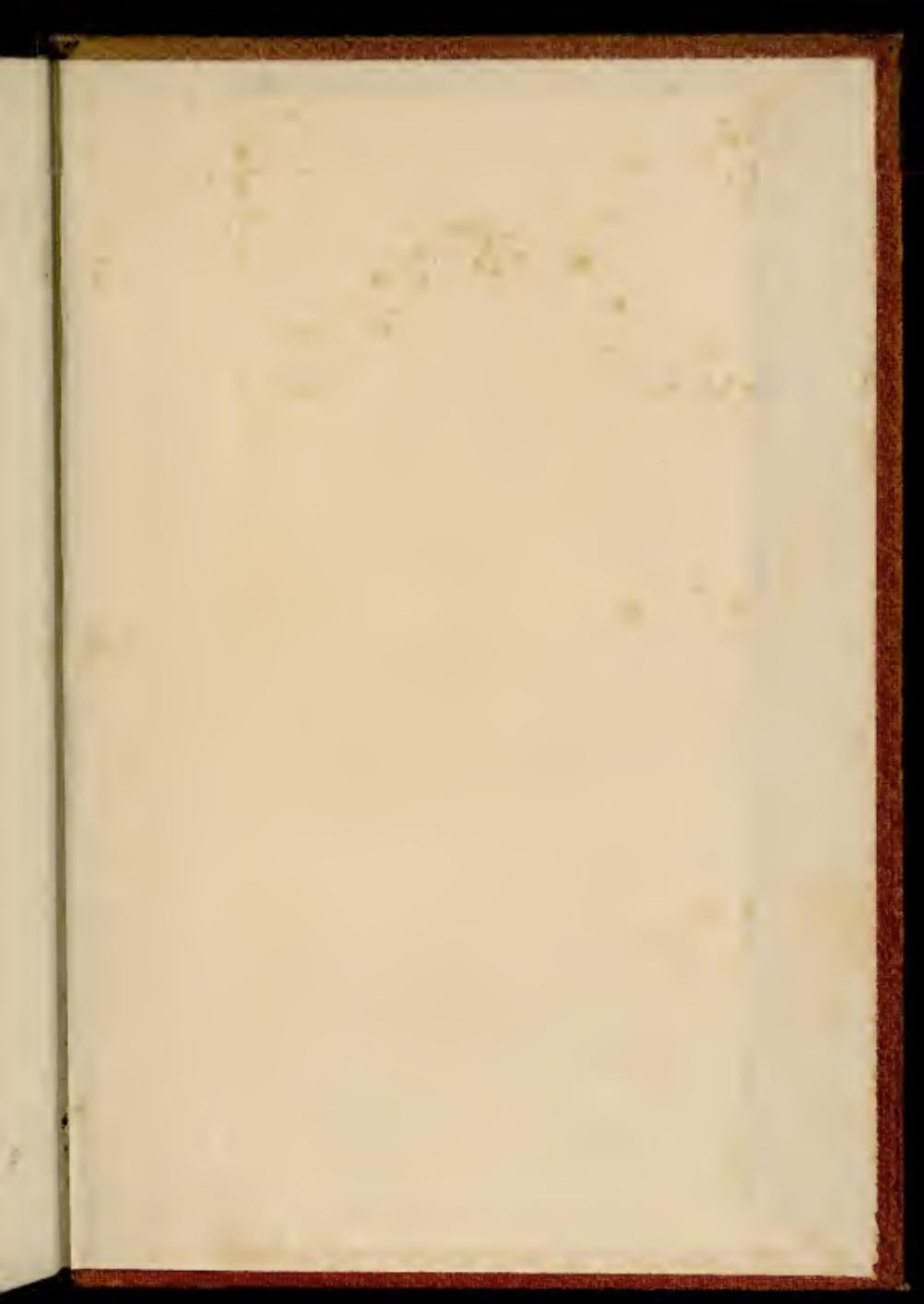
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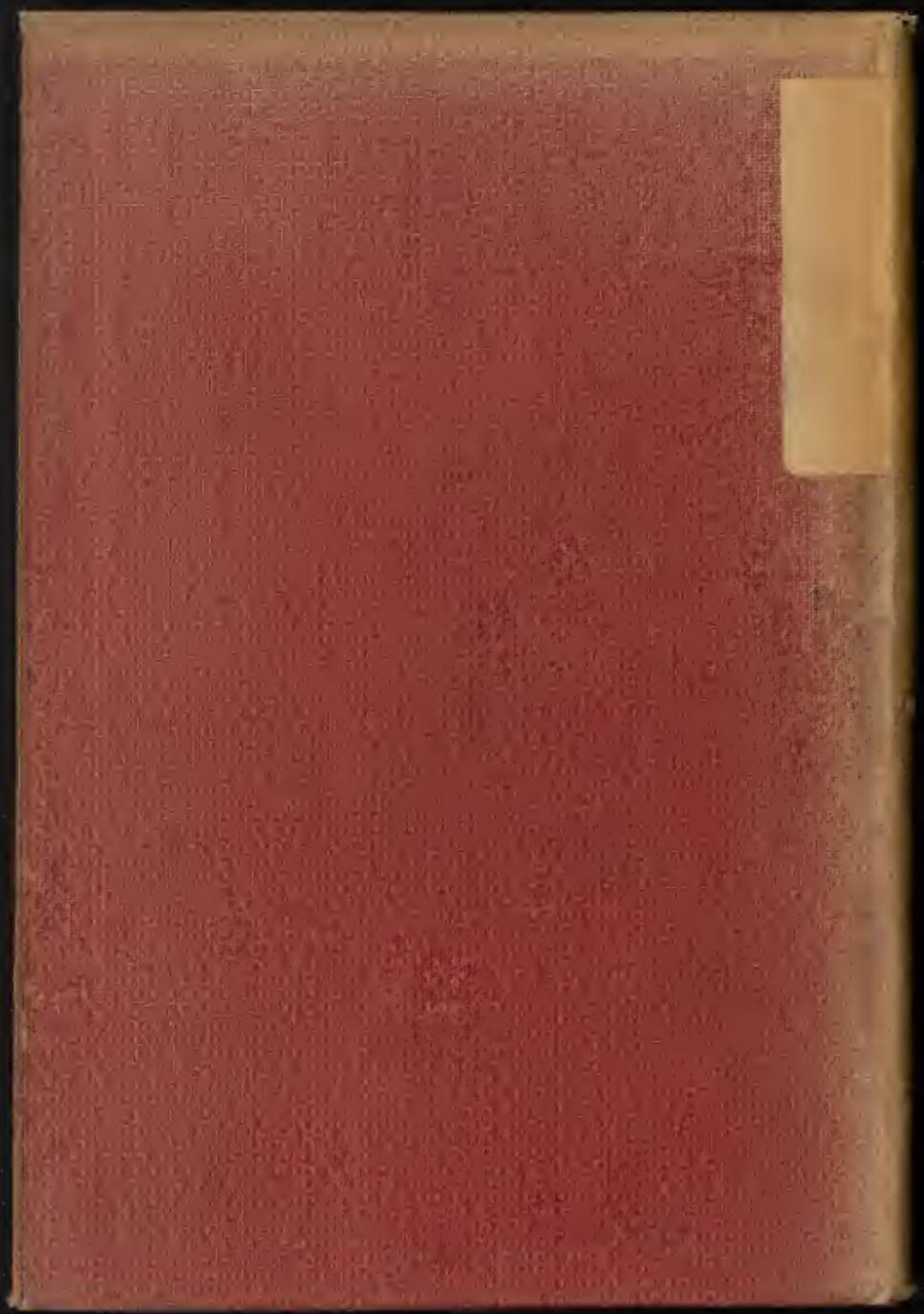
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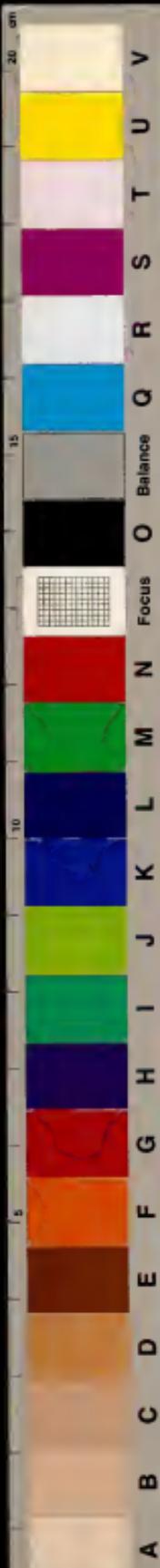
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